

The Devil's Advocate

December 2017



Happy Holidays!

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2017 Diablo Region Board of Directors

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Vice President	Bob Hilton	diablopca.vicepresident@gmail.com
Secretary	Pam Richards	diablopca.secretary@gmail.com
Treasurer	Marc Imbertson	diablopca.treasurer@gmail.com
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Special Advisors to the Board

Past President	Ed Won	pastpresident@diablo-pca.org
Zone 7 Representative	Sandy Provasi	sandyprovasi@gmail.com

Committee Chairs and Other Positions

Advertising Chair	Michael Alexander	diablopca.advertising@gmail.com
Charity Coordinator	Trina Adkins	charitychair@diablo-pca.org
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Chat With Carlos

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas to one and all Diablo members. With merriment and with gratitude, I look back at my first year as Diablo President, but more importantly as one of 5 Directors.

I know from the bottom of my heart that I can speak for all the 4 other Directors and thank you for a great and wonderful 2017.

If there were a way to convey gratitude to a special group of the membership, it would be to the silent majority, as the silent majority membership fuels many of our activities. If by chance you read this, thank you and thank you again. I am grateful that you are one of 1,300 plus members – keep the membership alive and spread PCA cheer. The other 20%, (I made this number up), you have been great with all your volunteerism for 2017. PCA is fueled by volunteers.

2017 was a very unusual and wet year, so we had to work around that with a variety of tours and events. We had one event put together by our Chief Driving Instructor (Jeff Urnes), “the Drive through the Vineyards.” We celebrated his birthday and had the opportunity to sample some superb wines. We aren’t just a vineyard traveling group, we had a fabulous cooking event at the Yankee Hill Cooking School. We even went to the Cobra Museum that is surprisingly close by that gave us a history of this iconic brand. We aren’t Porsche snobs, but when it comes to Driver Education – it is all Porsches. Adam Cipriano, Director at Large on the Diablo Board, is also our Driver Education Chair. Adam, the DE Team and our Sponsorship Team made it possible to have 4 Driver Education Days (2 at Thunderhill and 2 at Laguna Seca).

I’m grateful to work with a dedicated Membership Chair, Andre, who has opened Diablo whole heartily to our new members. You, the new members- wow, it is fantastic to see you coming in with great enthusiasm to what may be the best region in PCA. We recognized you at the new member picnic and you responded by coming out in large numbers. I know, because the older membership kept asking, “who are you and what can we do for you.” The New Member Picnic was a great success. Thank you to the event planning that our member Marc performs. The Awards Banquet is also no small task by any measure – thank you Marc.

The annual Car Show was a hit, again. Thank you Brian Adkins! The car show allowed our Charity Chair, Katrina Adkins to present 3 generous checks to our chosen charity, Shelter Inc. of Concord, a charity that works hard for veterans and those in need in Contra Costa County.

I just found out our Gimmick Rally organizer, Dave, is leaving the Diablo fold once he gets married and sells his Targa. I’m saddened, but happy for him in his new life experience. There is a lucky woman out there. Yes, thank you Dave, for organizing the rally this year. My wife enjoyed it so much that she bought a new car that day from Porsche of Livermore.

Speaking of new cars, Marc put on a detailing clinic with Griots that brought a large number of members who now have a great understanding of what it takes to keep the car velvety soft and shiny.

I am grateful to the wonderful work, the great effort, the capturing of notes, the agreements and disagreements from the other board members. Mark Imbertson and Pam Richards, the work that you have done is commendable in your first year as Diablo Directors. I should point out that you are relatively new PCA members too.

I am thankful for the trust our Vice-President, Bob Hilton put in me. I also appreciate the mentoring and support that he has given me all year long. Bob, the work that you have done for Diablo over the years as Director is commendable, and we will miss you on the Board. Adam, your love of DE continues to show as we have a very strong and very admirable, if not enviable, program to show for it. Thank you to you and your Team for constantly improving how we learn to drive our Porsche cars safely, while having nothing but fun.

At the Zone 7 level, Diablo has been a winner in many autocross and concourse events. Diablo provides many enthusiastic volunteers to assist with Zone level activities including Werks, Treffen and Parade.

And, I can’t forget the hard work that our editor, Kay Maloy, generating the monthly newsletter for: 9-years and counting (down). We really need someone to come forward and be our new editor. Kay has earned many kudos, not only for being the editor; but also getting us ready for DE days, plus bakes goodies for us too. Our website is constantly evolving thanks to the work DE days, plus bakes goodies for us too. Our website is constantly evolving thanks to the work that our webmaster, Anthony Mendoza, performs. As I close this out, I can’t forget

Carolyn Wong, who is the presenter of the events through Eventbrite. Finally, last but not least, Debby Clary who sends out the blasts to the membership to ensure that you are aware of Diablo Events.

2018 rings in a new board and we will announce that board in an upcoming blast and Advocate. The 2018 Planning meeting took place and we have items throughout each month of the new year. Even if you didn't attend the meeting, bring your ideas forward for 2018 anyway. It is never too late. The 2017 Board decided that every second Sunday of the month is dedicated to Pastries and Porsches. The number of new members coming out and getting a taste of Diablo is incredible.

While I have recognized the membership, I must tip my hat and say to each of our Sponsor Porsche Car dealers – many thanks for your 2017 sponsorship. These dealerships are staffed with true Porschephiles and warm and friendly faces: Porsche Walnut Creek, Porsche of Livermore, Porsche of Fremont, and Porsche Fresno. Kahler's – thank you for your continued support of our DE Tech inspections. Thank you to all that advertise in the Advocate. Our sponsorship team looks forward to planning Dealer and Diablo activities in 2018 with you all.

Ed Won, past president, 2016, thank you for being my mentor and for being my friend. Ed, thank you also for being the face of Dealer Sponsorship. You outdid yourself with the Laguna sponsorship and we are all grateful.

Thank you to all our various Chairs: Susie, Larry, Ingrid and to the membership in general.

Cheers all!

Carlos

Diablo President 2017



DIABLO ELECTION RESULTS

Here is your 2018 Board of Directors:

Michael (Mikie) Alexander—Secretary

Carlos Bocanegra—President

Adam Cipriano—Vice President

Mark Imbertson—Treasurer

Pam Richards—Director At Large



After serving as the Editor of the monthly newsletter for Diablo Region for 9 years, I am hanging up my computer so I can focus on my other hobbies and interests. The Region desperately needs someone with desktop design skills to put together the monthly newsletter that details events and tours and flyers advertising the upcoming activities.

You work closely with the Events Chair, Tour Chair, DE Chair, Webmaster and Caroline Wong, who uploads the information for Eventbrite. It is not required, but attending the monthly Board meeting helps you stay in touch with what is happening.

The current program being used is Microsoft Office Publisher, but any program can be used. Adobe Acrobat is also used to make PDF's for sharing files created in uncommon programs.

The amount of time needed to complete the monthly newsletter depends on how many events are taking place and how many future events are scheduled. I have usually scheduled 6-12 hours a month to complete and hand off to our Webmaster for uploading to the Diablo website. I also upload a copy to a publishing company for printed copies to be distributed to our advertisers.

During the initial break-in time, I would be happy to assist the member who wants to take over the publication process. If you are interested or have any questions, contact any Board member or Kay Maloy, the current/retiring Editor. Kay can be contacted at maloykay@comcast.net.

Diablo Two Day Paso Robles Tour

By Bob Hilton

The two-day tour from Pleasanton to Paso Robles was filled with great drives, dramatic wineries, wonderful food, education (learning beer making qualifies – right?), a “picturesque” pedestrian gimmick rallye, but most of all great people! Christi Hilton saw to it that great venues were arranged, but also that tour participants had time to enjoy their own choices of the many opportunities in the Paso Robles area.

37 PCA members in 17 Porsches ranging from air cooled 911's to Cayenne's met in the early morning. They received goody bags prepared by Christi, a drivers' safety meeting given by Bob Hilton and then a quick departure in two run groups. One group was led by Bob with sweep (and tour photographer) Juan Fernandez and the second by Diablo President Carlos Bocanegra with sweep Jerry Antolik. The highlight of the 230 mile drive down to Paso was the Highway 25 leg from Hollister to Highway 198 behind the Pinnacles State Park through rolling foothills and pastures along a two lane lightly travelled road with sweeping turns and tempting straights.

Our Diablo team met up with Ron and Debbie Broughman (from PCA Gran Prix Region) at the Sculpterra Winery for a catered lunch, wine tasting and tour of the dramatic and fanciful sculpture gardens. During the lunch, Bob went over rules of the “Pedestrian Gimmick Rallye” which consisted of identifying the street addresses corresponding to photographs of items from around Paso Robles town square pictured in a handout provided to each contestant. From there, tour participants visited the Firestone Walker Brewery, toured the facility, tasted a variety of their offerings and received a gift package. This left time in the afternoon for participants to visit some of the many wineries and other attractions in the area or to start their “Pedestrian Gimmick Rallye”.



Regrouping at our hotel in Atascadero over wine and cheese, participants shared stories from the days' events before heading to dinner at one of 5 restaurants of their choice featuring either American, Italian, Mexican, Spanish or Thai cuisine. This range in dining opportunities is an example of the variety of experiences Paso has to offer.

The next morning we gathered for breakfast at our hotel. Contestants submitted their responses to the Gimmick Rallye. Judy Huggins and the team of Ingrid and Ted French tied for second place and Rita Hannum took first. Congratulations to all the contestants. Several commented that investigating the blocks around the square looking for particular signs, pictures, buildings and statues made them much more aware of what downtown Paso had to offer.



The end of the official tour came at the Tooth and Nail winery, the second castle in San Luis Obispo County (Hearst Castle is the first.) We were ushered into a beautiful hall, seated at beautiful wood tables shaped in a "U" for wine tasting. We enjoyed a wide sampling of wines resulting from Tooth and Nail having its own vineyards in both the cooler and warmer regions of San Luis Obispo County. We toasted thanks to our tour organizer Christi for a great weekend.



While many participants headed home, several joined other Diablo Region members in Monterey for a very successful and well attended DE event at Laguna Seca.



Pictures by Juan & Rowena Fernandez



Activities Category Winner taken at Bandon State Beach, Oregon
Congratulations to Ken Wu

America's State Parks in partnership with ReserveAmerica recently hosted the 2017 America's State Parks Photo Contest to build community around the unique moments captured at state parks across the country. The contest received more than 8,000 approved entries during a two-month period by amateur photographers representing every state. Entries were submitted into five different categories including Camping, Wildlife, Activities, Friends & Family and Scenic & Seasons. A panel of judges selected one grand prize winner and one winner in each of the five categories to receive a REI gift card.

Let our winners below inspire you to plan your next state park visit with their unique stories.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who participated!

Kenneth is a new home builder in the San Francisco Bay Area. Photography has been his hobby since he was a teenager and he currently travels with the Chinatown Photographic Society club. This photo was taken during a club road trip from California to Oregon. As the group was setting up during sunset at [Bandon State Beach](#), Kenneth noticed everyone doing the same thing. He thought it was a great scene to be able to capture the anticipation, concentration and the shared passion of photography. He took a moment, stepped away from the middle tripod and took this winning shot with his iPhone. Kenneth said it's funny he captured thousands of dollars of photography equipment in this photo, but sometimes the best camera is the one with you.

Kenneth loves state parks because they are close and accessible. He also loves the variety from coastal beaches to mountains to historic locations. State parks inspire him to get out in nature and see different parts of America. "It's a great system!"



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Life in the Slow Lane Can Be Scary

By Mike Alexander

I recently experienced perhaps the scariest drive of my life. It wasn't on a wet race track like Germany's infamous Nordschleife, Belgium's Spa or Laguna Seca. It wasn't a dark stormy night on a twisty public back road like Skyline Drive, Mulholland Drive or the Tail of the Dragon. I wasn't trying to recreate the car chase scene in Bullet, The Italian Job or the apocalyptic world of Mad Max . No, it was a beautiful fall afternoon and I was simply driving on Highway 680 and 580 between Concord and the Altamont Pass. Driving at or just below the speed limit, i.e. 55 to 60 mph is not for the faint of heart on these roads. It's actually scary and infinitely more difficult than following "the flow of traffic," especially in a Porsche.

My story begins when I recently took my 2011 997 GTS to a local smog test station as part of the registration renewal process. To my surprise, the car didn't pass because the car's onboard computer couldn't properly connect with DMV. The problem was that I had recently had an issue with faulty tire pressure readings. Several weeks before, my mechanic had cleared the fault codes in the onboard computer; however, the computer apparently requires some time and mileage before it resets itself. You may have seen this before with a check engine light coming on when you've forgotten to secure the gas cap after refueling. The test technician and my mechanic agreed that I needed to drive 75 or 100 miles at a steady pace for the computer to reset. They suggested using the cruise control set between 55 and 60 mph on an uninterrupted stretch of highway.

So on this beautiful bright fall midafternoon, I set off, blissfully unaware of what was about to unfold. I jumped on southbound Intrastate 680 in Walnut Creek, staying in the right lane as I set the cruise control to 58 mph. It didn't take long to realize that I was in for the ride of my life. I felt like the accidental tourist who takes a wrong turn, bumbling onto the streets of Pamplona as they release the bulls. Oh, the horror of realizing you are about to be gored or trampled unless you run faster or stay clear of the herd of stampeding men and beasts.

As I hummed along, top down, listening to the American Gypsy punk band Gogol Bordello blasting on the Bose, it occurred to me that at this pace, perhaps I should be listening to Lawrence Welk's greatest hits. Yes, I felt old and sloooow.

To my way of thinking, somehow it's ok for ancient Aunt Gertrude in her circa 1980s Lincoln land yacht to plow real estate in the number 5 lane, but not a high-performance sports car like a Porsche Carrera.

If I were to guess, slower traffic that day was cruising upwards of 80 mph while others were weaving about traffic at a pace that would surely move them on to Q2 at the USGP. Then it dawned on me: They weren't speeding, they were simply qualifying!

It was Mr. Toad's Wild Ride at Disneyland as soccer moms in Japanese minivans and German SUVs sped by staring in distain. Eighteen wheelers flew up from behind veering left at the last instant before squishing me like a bug on their windshield. I never realized so many delivery van drivers knew sign language. I guess that the middle finger is some sort of universal greeting wishing a fellow traveler good fortune.

As I transited through Dublin at a steady 58 mph and onto east bound Intrastate 580, Gen Y hot shoes in tricked-out Kias, Hondas, Scions & Nissans left me gasping for air and wondering, where were the brave men and women of the CHP with traffic enforcement?

I finally exited the freeway at the top of the Altamont Pass and reentered the freeway westbound for the ride home. I was bound and determined to reset my onboard computer and get the car smogged that day, so it was back to the slow lane with the cruise control set. But alas, things didn't get any better on the return trip as the dirty looks from a seemingly endless parade passed me by. The final indignity was being passed by a guy on a Vespa who simply shook his head in disgust. I thought to myself: This guy must think how unfair life is when he's straddling a Vespa and this old fart is dawdling along in a Porsche. What a waste of fine German machinery.

The so-called "slow lane" provides no sanctuary as the far right lane along this corridor continually exits, requiring drivers staying on the freeway to merge left. But, unlike Formula One, slower cars on the road do not have the luxury of track marshals waving blue flags to alert "back markers" of fast-approaching traffic.

Miraculously, I survived my adventure. I made it back to the smog station before closing and the Carrera, no worse for wear, successfully connected with DMV and passed smog. My adventure got me to thinking in a whole new light about safety, the hierarchy of machinery on the roads, and the level of driver skills (or lack thereof) we find on our public roadways.

The automotive arms race for ever increasing horse power and performance continues unabated. It doesn't matter if the machine comes from Zuffenhausen, Maranello, Tokyo or



Detroit, brilliant engineers continue to increase performance often well beyond the skill levels of many of those who can afford to purchase their handiwork. Think about it, a modern family sedan like a Toyota Camry will out accelerate, out handle and out brake a 1980s Ferrari 328. Therefore, one must be hyper aware of their surroundings while on the road, looking out for not only themselves but for all of those Earnhardt wannabes who may put us in peril.

Speeds along our highways are way up, while I suspect the skill level of drivers is not commensurate with the potential performance of their vehicles. So if you have a need for speed, don't act out your fantasy of being Porsche factory drivers like Patrick Long, Nick Tandy or Walter Röhrl on public roads. Sign up for a PCA Drivers' Education day where you can learn to get the most out of yourself and your car on track in a safe and fun environment.

We are lucky to drive Porsches; they are fantastic machines that are simply capable of amazing performance. Sometimes we drive fast, sometimes very fast, passing slower traffic and never thinking twice about those we pass. After my recent sojourn, I have empathy for those in lesser machinery or who are less fortunate to be confined to the slow lane for whatever reason. I even have sympathy for those who decide rather than be trampled they must move to the left and take their chances by running with the bulls.



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Kids and Kars

By Chris Moyer

I'm sure some of you remember the little kid who would often show up for Saturday breakfast at the Buttercup with his dad – yeah, those two guys with the matching t-shirts. While Casey and I haven't been as active with the club as we'd like this year, we have been quite busy.

Casey raced in two Kid Kart series this year: KPX, held at six different tracks, ranging from Fresno to Reno, in which he took third place, overall in the championship; and, in the Sanzaru Games Karting Championship, held at the Simraceway Performance Karting Center in Sonoma. In the Sanzaru series, Casey came within one-and-a-half Kart lengths and fifteen points of winning it all while coming to the line in the last race of the season. We're very happy with how well he did. It seemed others were as well as he received many compliments about how frequently he got on his driving lines.

In Kart racing, like Auto racing, participants generally get to choose the colors and styles of their "uniforms." In a sea of flames, lightning bolts, and multi-colored tribal helmet designs, Casey has always been easy to spot in his simple, white helmet with its (you guessed it) "PORSCHE" script emblazoned across the front.

As my racer moves up to the Cadet/Jr. 1 class next season, he's transitioning from his little 2hp HONDA GXH50 to a 6hp Briggs & Stratton LO206 and bigger chassis, which he's already had out on the track. He loves the power and wants EVEN MORE speed.

We'd like to offer our sincere thanks for all the support and encouragement Casey has gotten from our Diablo Family on Facebook. And, who knows? Maybe someday he can move into something with a Flat Six, a roof, and some doors.

I think Mommy would really like the idea of a roof and some doors.

Happy Holidays,

Chris Moyer, December 2017

PS. After I submitted this article, Casey got third place in the Little Stockton 99, Turkey Dash.

It was his first Jr. 1 race and only his third day in the new Kart. The kid who won has been racing in Jr. 1 for two years and the 2nd place finisher, who Casey hung with for the whole race, has been in that class for a full year.



Casey at SIM in July



Helmet and Trophy



Porsche Club of America

ZONE 7

IT'S NOT JUST THE CARS — IT'S THE PEOPLE

In The Zone

By Sandy Provasi, Zone 7 Representative

As I write this column, we do not know the extent of the lost and destruction to all in the North Bay. Fires are still burning and it will be some time before Redwood Region can let us know if there is anything the rest of us can do to help. We know some of our fellow PCA members have lost their homes and Porsches. I will keep you posted. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone in Redwood Region.

The final Zone 7 Autocross just happened at the end of October. Everyone is invited to attend the Zone 7 Awards Banquet on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 6pm at the Hilton Garden Inn, Fairfield. We will be presenting the class awards for the Zone 7 Autocross and Zone 7 Concours Series along with some special Zone awards. We will not have Club Race awards, as they will be racing down in Buttonwillow with Zone 8 that weekend.

Rennsport Reunion VI, will be held at Laguna Seca on September 27th-30th 2018. Tickets are on sale now (www.mazdaraceway.com) for the event and the corral. From the PCA site here is what Rennsport is: For those who may not know what, exactly, is a Rennsport Reunion, picture this: tens of thousands of car enthusiasts and hundreds of Porsches of all types on display and racing on track. Among the thousands of people scattered about the paddock and infield are famous race car drivers, engineers, designers, and company executives — basically the who's-who of the Porsche world. Porsche, not PCA, puts on this event.

PCA will provide a hospitality tent with refreshments and presentations by Porsche insiders for members in attendance. More information will become available in the near future. PCA volunteers will be parking the corral Porsches by model at the event as in past years. Hope to see you in the corral.

Please check out the new addition to the Zone 7 Website thanks to Richard Chew at <http://zone7.pca.org>. Richard has added a place for photos and article's from Zone events. Enjoy the photo of 82 Porsche on Shasta Dam.

Looking Forward:

Tech Tactics West, Porsche Facility Eastvale, CA, Dec. 2 or 3rd, 2017

Zone 7 2018 Sierra-Desert-Pacific Tour, April 26th-30th, 2018

Treffen Tamaya, Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico, April 25th-29th, 2018

CRAB-Sacramento Valley Region, May 18th-20th, 2018

Lake of the Ozarks Porsche Parade, Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri, July 8th-14th, 2018

Werks Reunion, Corral de Tierra, August 24th, 2018

Rennsport Reunion VI, Laguna Seca, September 27th-30th, 2018

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Sandy Provasi

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Laguna Seca DE Day

November, 2017

What a day!! Diablo and Sequoia Regions joined forces to spend a fantastic day at Mazda Raceway at Laguna Seca sponsored by Porsche Fresno. The excitement started the night before when over 70 members gathered at Tarpy's restaurant for a noisy night of fun and track-inspired conversations.

Once again we were blessed with the most gorgeous weather. The track was clear and ready for the eighty plus drivers. Needless to say, everyone went home with a smile from ear to ear.

Photos by GotBlueMilk.com



2018 DIABLO PCA ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

Boundary Oak Country Club

Come join us for the club's annual awards banquet and enjoy the company of other Porschephiles and hear what the club is doing in 2018 and a chance to acknowledge your friends as they receive their awards.

Date: Saturday, January 27, 2018

Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Location: Boundary Oak Country Club

3800 Valley Vista Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cost: \$50 per person

Registration: www.diablo-pca.org

Deadline: January 19, 2018

Itinerary:

11:00-11:30am Club member arrivals

11:30am-12:30pm Gourmet luncheon

12:30pm-2:00pm Guest speaker and award presentations

No Host Bar (Sodas, coffee and tea service provided) Cash Bar For wine and mixed drinks)

Guest Speaker: Vu Nguyen from PCA's national office

Luncheon Menu:

Baby field of greens Salad with Cranberries, Candied nuts, Blue Cheese with Sherry Vinaigrette
Sourdough Roll & Butter

Entrees

Grilled lemon pepper marinated Mahi Mahi
Confetti Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables,
Green Apple Cucumber Relish

OR

Potato & Herb Crusted Breast of Chicken
Roasted Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables
Tarragon Cream Sauce

OR

Vegetable Lasagna

Dessert

Rustic Berry Tart with French Vanilla Ice Cream





Membership Report

Primary Members: 899
Affiliate Members: 446
Total Members: 1345

New Members

Anderson, John 1999 Boxster, Silver

Burchett, Jonathan 2017 Cayman, White

Chin, Isaac 1985 911 Carrera Targa, Black

Eakin, Doug 2009 911 Carrera S, Silver

Forbes, Mark 2015 911 Carrera S, Black

Harhay, Michael 2008 911 Turbo Cabriolet

Jagorstrand, Joakim 2018 Macan S

Kohoutek, Frank 2015 911 Carrera 4S Cabriolet, Metallic Blue

Malikyar Jr, Mohamad 2016 Cayman GT4, White

Malko, Thomas 2009 911 Carrera S, Black

Shibarshin, Dmitriy 2010 911 Turbo Cabriolet, Black

Total New Members: 11

2017 Concours Series

By Bob Hilton

What is a 65+ year old, who can't see well, and has always been a "big picture" guy, doing as a rookie in Concours? Enjoying beautiful Porsches, meeting great people, visiting great venues, and pouring love on a car he's had for 25 years.

In 1993 I saw my 1977 930 Desert Red Porsche in a consignment warehouse in Campbell, California. \$25,000 wasn't cheap, but it was a one owner original, (so I was told), one of a kind, "Poster Perfect" Porsche! Over the years and miles, it's always been special to drive. I drove my oldest to Chico in it when we were visiting colleges; got it up to 150 mph on Highway 505 and he didn't even wake up. Well, the radio was terrible, but, hey, let's get a state of the art "sound system" and toss that Blaupunkt Bamberg. Always garaged, seldom driven in the rain, regularly maintained. Always a joy to look at and know it was mine.

Showing up at the Diablo Memorial Day Car Show several years ago, I got some nice comments. Yeah, well... getting knocked down for lint was a bit of a surprise. What a great day and what great people! Despite failing to place, it was a great day and, thanks to Diablo and Brian Adkins, it only gets better.

Why mess with a good thing and get into Concours? After all, don't you need to be obsessive/compulsive? Don't you need expert knowledge of your car? Isn't your car (and therefore your effort) going to get criticized? Aren't the people hyper-critical, looking to get an edge, and unfriendly?

My first show was the 2016 WERKS Reunion. I did my best cleaning ever and even got grease out of some latches. I didn't place. I was told the sound system transceiver was covering an inspection spot in the luggage area, the "Carrera Turbo" was really a "Turbo Carrera", etc., etc., etc. I did get a lot of nice comments, a request to be contacted if I ever wanted to sell it, and a promise to send me some bumpers for the rear deck lid that are no longer produced. I also got the judges' sheet identifying areas for improvement. I met some great, encouraging people including Arthur Woo with whom I would compete over the next year.



I planned to compete in the 2017 Zone 7 Concours series. There were some things to do, like tracking down a replacement Blaupunkt Bamberg radio in London, England and an OEM compressor, replacing the Carrera Turbo lettering, polishing and waxing, vacuuming and cleaning the storage area, and cleaning the interior and the engine compartment and then starting over to clean each of those areas again!

My first Concours was in Lodi. I left early, found the winery and was directed to a grassy area where the cars were staged. I met many of the people with whom I would compete over the next many months. Two are Kathryn Enos and her dad. She was showing an early silver 356 in Street Class that was originally purchased brand new by her dad! I love the people and the stories!!!

The series took us to Hayward, and Sacramento and Reno. Oh Reno, where it rained as we came into town and I felt like there was no sense in showing up the next day for the event. But, I woke up early, found a coin operated car wash and showed up at the park for

the event and somehow won my class! Next was Monterey, where we competed with and came in second to a beautiful, well prepared, 1989 Speedster with 1,200 original miles...

And then there was WERKS, again. This time, the help I received during the series from judges and competitors alike, and the guidance of Diablo member, Ted French, brought me a second place finish from among 28 entrants in my class!



The final event was organized by Diablo Concours Chair Jack Bean. The prior year had been a bit of a debacle, but with Jack's guidance, we ended the year with a great turn out! Thanks, Jack and Livermore Porsche.

At the end of the series my car is in the best shape ever, I met a lot of wonderful people, and I finished first in my class... just squeaking past my friend Arthur.



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Diablo Threads and Treads

When: Every other Tuesday, 6:30-9 pm. Dates posted on www.diablo-pca.org.

Where: Panera's in Alamo, Stone Valley Road exit, by Safeway.
Check out our Facebook page for more pictures:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/DiabloPCA/photos/?tab=album&album_id=2087365701289971





LIFE BEYOND YOUR CAR

Dan Spisak



Here is my story about "life beyond your car".

Jim Edmunds "volunteered" me for this article then disappeared for a two week plus road trip. There will be a day of reckoning.

As background I became interested in cars in 1961 when I attended the Times GP at Riverside. Moss, Brabham, McLaren, Hill - wow, I was impressed. Also, when I was a senior in high school a guy who owned a local gas station had a 1960 Fairlane 260 V8 which he dragged in C Modified Production. What a screamer: dual quads, 4:56 rear end, etc. That made me more interested in the mechanics of cars.

Moving ahead, while at Cal in the late '60s, I sold my 1960 Pontiac Catalina (389, 3-tows, T10 gear box, huge back seat ,(heh, heh), etc. I then bought a Yamaha YDS3. This started my motorcycle era. I modified it with cut ports and expansion chambers - unsilenced. No-one cared about the noise back then. Over the years I have owned 14 bikes. The notable ones were the Kawasaki A7SS, which I raced in 350 Production. It was fast, over 130 MPH, but had a spaghetti frame and poor brakes. It was followed by a 1979 Yamaha XS-750 which was a Porsche design (my first Porsche!) which was great for touring. I really loved my various Ducati's, but the best bike was the Yamaha TZ-350. It was very fast (160 MPH+) and handled well. Actually, I had several Yamaha GP bikes, including the TA-125, and the TZ-250. Racing in the AFM I achieved 55 podiums, 18 wins, and 4 championships. My last bike was a BMW R-100RS, a fantastic tourer. I sold it after my son was born. It sat in the garage killing batteries.



Later I discovered competitive cycling. I had been riding the cycle for several years. My weight was way down and I thought I was doing OK on the bike. Then I joined the Berkeley Bicycle Club and received the shock of my life. I had thought that the Masters were a bunch of gentlemen cyclists. Ha! Some of them were former national champions and world champions. They were not willing to give an inch. I used to not like criteriums, but I became used to the close racing and having a rider's thigh under your elbow in a turn. Later, I discovered cyclocross, a steeple chase on a bike. This was the most fun imaginable. I soon devoted the racing season as training for winter cyclocross. My last race was the 2002 Master National Cyclocross Championships in Yountville (13 inches of rain!). I got a fifth behind several national runners.

But, that is all in the past. Current attractions are astronomy, photography, and ham radio. I never cease to admire the wonderful objects in the cosmos. I have been interested in photography since 1963. I have hundreds of photos of car and moto racing. Thanks to Art Gladke, I was given photo passes to Laguna and Sears Point. Ham radio never ceases to amaze me. I have made hundreds of contacts world-wide.

That's it for now. 73s, Na zdravie, and have fun,

Dan





LIFE BEYOND YOUR CAR

Elsie Lum



Satoshi and I joined the Diablo PCA due to the welcoming hosts, former President Walt Lietz, and his wife, event coordinator, Jacquie Lietz. With Diablo PCA, we enjoy many social events, e.g., Octoberfest, newcomer picnics, tours, etc., where we gather, drink great wine and make lifelong friends.

Now I am a participant in the "Diablo Threads & Treads" craft group, getting guidance on knitting cute hats, vest, for my new grandson, while chatting on the latest news. It's been a great support group for us Diablo PCA women. Special thanks to Ingrid French for her patience in guiding me in my knitting skills.

As Satoshi and I travel through Japan, we find that PCA enthusiasts are worldwide! In a little town, Izumo, by the Japan Sea, we saw a beautiful 356, a member of Japan's and Southern California's 356 organization. Amazing timing!

In Japan, I am reminded of how the Japanese are meticulous, clean, efficient, and especially a very caring and accommodating culture. Strangers have personally guided us to where we wanted to go, going out of their way to show us, accompany us on our journey. One woman ran after us when she saw us going the wrong way! Another guy caught the bus with us to the front of the site.

We walked everywhere, with its old temples and castles; that's how the Japanese stay so healthy and enjoy eating, e.g., fresh soba (buckwheat) noodles, fresh sashimi (raw fish), sushi, onamiyagi (egg omelette pancake), ramen, yakitori skewers, etc.

So my fellow Diablo PCA members, enjoy each other and build our community. So much to offer each other!



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Where: Buttercup Pantry
660 Ygnacio Valley Road
Walnut Creek

Located between N. Broadway and N. Civic Drive

The backroom is where you will find the fun brewing.

Time: 7:30am



Diablo Region Dinner

Join other Diablo members on the 3rd Thursday of each month to enjoy good food and conversation. A great way to spend an evening!

Where: Faz Restaurant
600 Hartz Avenue
Danville

Time: 6:30pm

Next Dinner: Dec 21, 2017



The Pacific Northwest By the Numbers Tour

By Bob Hilton

1 marque – Porsche of course! 2 countries. 3 states. 4 National Parks. 5 (thousand) miles. 6 cars. 7 couples. The numbers are like measures of ingredients but the finished product was more than the sum of its parts – it was Magnificent!

2017's Northwest Parks Tour, organized by Christi Hilton, continued the theme from 2016's Southwest National Parks tour – great scenery, roads, food, vehicles but, most of all, great Porsche people. This year's trip included Diablo veterans Ingrid and Ted French, Julie (La Plant) and Bob Henderson, Bob and Christi Hilton, as well as Dede and Joe Mariscal. They were joined by Pam and Danny Richards, also Diablo members, and Debbie and Ron Broughman from the Grand Prix (Long Beach) Region. Vern and Howard Thomas (Diablo Region) joined in for a last night dinner in Gold Beach Oregon.

September 5th early morning found our intrepid band gathering in Fairfield, where we all met the Giamonna's friends the Broughman's for the first time. Talk about faith, Ron and Debbie continued with the trip, despite the Giamonna's having to cancel. Bob Hilton provided the driving instructions – "This is not a PCA event. We're unsupervised adults on vacation. Maximize your fun! Caravan with us and follow our Sapphire Blue Metallic Targa 4S "Blue" (most did most of the time) or meet us in the evening for dinner. Let us know if you're heading off on your own, so we know whether to worry about you." With that, we were off along highways 80, 5 and 70. We met in Marysville at the "Miners Alley" for lunch and local brews and a walk around down town with visits to its antique stores. (A classic 1917 golf bag was had for \$25 less than 1/10 its true value, we are told!) The French's were gracious enough not only to bring and keep cool the delicious wine and snacks we enjoyed but also provide portage service for some of us. Following highways 140, 99, 32 and 36, we wound up the day at the Bidwell House in Chester on Lake Almanor with wine and cheese before dinner and an early turn in.



After breakfast and Danny's car washing, we had a great hour's drive along Highways 36 and 89 from Chester to our first park, Lassen Volcanic National Park. Despite the scenery, our six Porsche's (1-Cayman, 3 911's, 1 Panamara and 1 Cayenne) caught the attention and compliments of park visitors. After a walk along the Bumpass Hell trail – some of us getting further than others (kudo's to the Broughmans, Hendersons and Mariscals) – we had a picnic lunch arranged by the Henderson's next to a glass-like glacier lake. Returning to Chester for dinner at the Red Onion (owned and operated by the same hard working

Slovak couple who own and operate the Bidwell house,), we recounted our stories from the day.



Continuing on Highway 89, the next day we stopped at beautiful McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park between Mount Shasta and Lassen Peak. The views from above and below the thundering falls and springs flowing from the cliff face were breathtaking – it's no wonder Theodore Roosevelt pronounced them "one of the wonders of the world". After an amazing drive on Highway 97 along the Cascades, that night found us at the beautiful Running Y Ranch Resort in

Klamath Falls Oregon. The next day was spent in various ways: concours types (like Danny Richards) washing their cars at the golf cart barn, those who needed more driving (like the Broughmans and Hendersons) enjoying the roads, and those seeking more creature comforts (the French's, Hilton's and Mariscals) heading to the spa – and oh yeah the laundry!

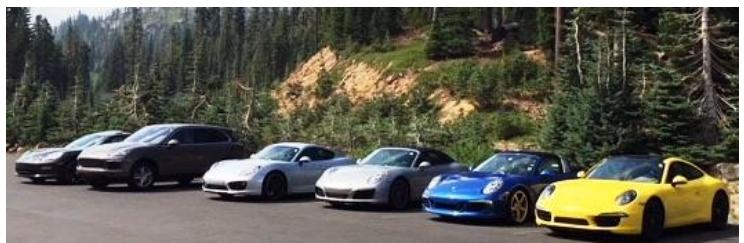


Crater Lake National Park was next on our list. We were fortunate to have clear air and the views of the lake were breathtaking from the back of the Lodge enjoying its rocking chairs. Three days earlier, visitors on the rim could

not see the lake! The fires this year devastated large parts of the Pacific Northwest and created challenges for our Tour Planner and Navigator Christi Hilton. After saying good bye to the Hendersons, rather than heading for the Columbia Gorge (our original plan), we landed that night in Bend Oregon having dinner with Porsche friends of Pam and Danny Richards.



After Danny washed his car and we crossed into Washington on Highway 84, we found the roads in rural Washington, particularly Highway 12, are great. Smooth pavement and sweeping turns. "But let me tell you all a story of a Porsche driver on a tragic and fateful day. He'd been following a Volt, going 40 miles an hour, and the Volt wouldn't get out of the way. Now when the time came to pass, the Porsche driver stepped on the gas. But through the windscreens he saw the change to the speed sign and the flashing lights of the Highway Patrol. Now you PCA members, don't you think it's a scandal how for accelerating we have to pay and pay. Fight these speed traps, join the protest, and get these kill joys off the highway!" (Sung to the tune of the Kingston Trio's "MTA") OK, I've got a hold of myself and feel much better and the ticket was less than \$10 per mile!



We spent the night in Morton, Washington with pre-dinner cocktails at the "swank" Bucksnort Biker Bar. Entertainment was supplied by a fellow customer who passed out on the sidewalk going next door to the tattoo parlor. This was followed by dinner at the better of two restaurants in town. The morning found Christi proclaiming, "I've probably stayed at a worse motel but thankfully I can't remember it"! An hour drive along Highway 7 brought us to the entrance of Mt. Rainier National Park. We stopped at Longmire to enjoy its examples of "National Park Architecture", the park headquarters, National Park Inn, two-pump gas station, and wooden suspension bridge. We walked the "Trail of the Shadows" with its hot water springs, beautiful meadows and views of Mt. Rainier. Then, we drove up past the waterfalls to the new Henry M. Jackson Memorial Visitor Center, the Paradise Inn for lunch and "close up" views of Mt Rainier and its glaciers. We finished up our visit with blackberry pie a la mode at the Copper Creek Inn.



After early morning walks through Seattle's Downtown Center, trips to the Space Needle and famous Pike's Market (for the "throwing of the fish"), we were off to the ferry to Friday Harbor on San Juan Island. Our home for the night was the Friday Harbor Grand. This bed and breakfast featured vegetable gardens and more than 20 chickens who had the good sense to use a cut down air-cooled Volkswagen bus as a chicken coop. Driving around the island many of us stopped at the American and English encampments that were used during the "Pig War" (the last armed confrontation between the US and Great Britain that lasted from 1859 to 1872).



Another ferry ride, took us from Friday Harbor to Sydney, Vancouver Island. Our drive across the island toward Victoria brought us to the picturesque Butchart Gardens. Seriously, you can't take a bad picture at this botanical paradise created and still owned by the Butchart family. After lunch in the conservatory-like restaurant, we toured the "Sunken", Italian, and Japanese gardens before completing our drive to Victoria and the architecturally striking Empress Hotel. With just enough time, we stopped by for a martini in the bar before queuing up for the ferry to Port Angeles, Washington

A road closed for construction turned what is normally a 20 minute drive to Crescent Lake Lodge in the Olympia National Park, into an hour and half pitch black tour. (Blue's optional LED headlights were a blessing to this "older" driver!) All but Ron managed to avoid the cantaloupe-sized boulder carefully placed by nature in the middle of our lane, and thankfully he escaped without serious damage. With sunrise we realized our lodge was on beautiful alpine-like Crescent Lake with views of the mountains in the background. The view from the sunroom at the lodge reminded me of Montreux, Switzerland with its view of Lake Geneva and the Alps in the background. Some of us enjoyed a day at the lake while others hiked the Olympic National Park trails and viewed Marymere Falls.

The next day was a driving day along the Washington and Oregon Coasts. Stopping overnight in Seaside, we were off to our destination – the amazing Tu Tu'-Tun Lodge beside the Rogue River near Gold Beach, Oregon. The Lodge was highly recommended by fellow Diablo members "Sketch" and Marty Sketchly, and they did not steer us wrong. The setting along the Rogue River was like a landscape painting. The design, as with all good architecture, blended perfectly into the setting. The construction and decor paid attention to every detail. (Ted pointed out that the walls were even tiled under the sink – Ted did not explain why he stuck his head under the sink!) The food was first rate and from the first day on each guest was greeted with their first name. It was a great place to relax for the day, get a massage by the river, or hike the Cape Sebastian trail with a view of the ocean, as the Mariscals and Thomas's did.

The Mariscals arranged a "last night dinner" for us in Gold Beach with the Thomas's who brought their Ford F150 and Airstream to Gold Beach. We shared stories of our trip and laid plans for our next adventure (Glacier, Grant Tetons and Yellowstone). With that, we said good-bye grateful for the experience – well, of course with the exception of that little speeding ticket!



Diablo Region Annual Holiday Party Happenings

Hopefully, you were one of the merrymakers at the Diablo Region Annual Holiday Party Saturday night. The room buzzed with enthusiastic conversations as old friends caught up on each others' lives and new members became acquainted with fellow Porsche enthusiasts.

The feast was fantastic and made the evening even more enjoyable. Tummies full and very relaxed, the attendees were divided into two groups and the fun began. Each guest was asked to bring a Porsche-related gift to exchange during our "White Elephant Exchange". We have some very creative and clever members in our Region. As always, there were the "hot" items that were sought after and then those items that were "less in demand". Lots of laughs and fun ensued, leaving everyone feeling in a holiday mood. Remember to attend next year!

A very BIG "Thank You" to Marc and Mary Giammona for arranging such a wonderful location for a beautiful evening!





Happy New year