

August 2005

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Cover Photo

Got Lights ?

This 911 sure does. It was taken at the Parts Heaven Swap Meet and Concours, sponsored by the Loma Prieta Region and Parts Heaven.





Membership Data

New Members Jon Adams / Alamo Marlise Cook / Concord Philip Fraher / Danville Richard Gamoras / Benicia Randy Hahn / Livermore Gavin Hembree / Walnut Creek Mervyn Lee / Pittsburg Larry Pussman / Danville Larry Soletti / Oakland

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PARTSHEAVEN



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Diablo Region PCA website www.pca.org/dia

Ted's Tidbits

WOW, I said things would be a little different with our new editor Rob, but I had no idea it would be this different. What a fantastic job he did on his first try. When you see him, be sure to tell him what a great job he is doing. Can you believe it, a color cover!!! The photos inside were also great and thanks to Rich Cao and many others for their photographic skills.

I would like to take a minute and chat about our every Saturday morning breakfasts at Denny's in Danville, 8:00 AM until ??. I started coming about two years ago and we would have maybe 15 people show up and it was fun but a little quiet. Currently we are consistently around 30 - 35 attendees and there is laughter and stories all over the place. What a great time everyone seems to be having and afterward in the parking lot all kinds of Porschephiles are busily talking about solving Porsche questions. If your not attending any of the breakfasts you are missing a great opportunity to meet other car nuts.



For those of you that know me personally, you know how crazy I am about auto crossing. A few weeks ago I asked my daughter if she would like to come watch and see what it is all about. It took a little coaxing but she decided to give it a try. She did and had a great time in doing it and she also did very well. Who knows maybe another Danica

Patrick in the works. Danica came in 4th in the Indianapolis 500 race this year.

Rob has asked me to let everyone know that there is always space in the Advocate for photos AND if anyone would like to submit an article to please send it to him. Don't worry about the format and don't worry about the content as long as it is Porsche related. Also if you want to sell something Porsche related he will include it in the "for sale" section. Just fire off a note describing the item and the price along with a phone number and he will try to get it in the next issue. By looking in past advocates you will find Rob's email address and you can reach him (along with all the other board members) very easily there.

I am now taking names for those of you that would like to volunteer to work at the Porsche Platz (think corral) on Friday October 14th thru Sunday October 16th. These will be 4 hour shifts so don't think you need to work the full day or all the days. Just start thinking about the dates and give me a nudge and I will get you all the info. It is too much to describe here BUT, you will get a chance to see some great racing and also the new Porsche Factory / Penske prototype for about the first or second time out. This month my column just seems to be full of fluff and I apologize. Some months are like that I guess. One last thing, the board is still looking for a replacement to fill the vacancy on the board when Ron left. If you are interested, contact me on my email (tdfrnch@ yahoo.com).

Until next month, drive safely.

Ted





In 1922, Giovanni and Virginia Biale left the town of Savona in Genoa, Italy with their three young sons, Giacomo, Mario and Rudolfo to make a new life in America. With help from a cousin, they made their way to San Francisco and settled in the Italian section of Potrero Hill. Less than a year later, my grandfather, Giovanni, opened "*Biale's Meat Market*" on Connecticut St. To this day "Biale" is still tiled in the entryway of the building. Giocomo "lack" my uncle_staved in the

Giacomo "Jack", my uncle, stayed in the butcher business while Mario, my father, and Rudy went into the bar and restaurant business in San Francisco, Phoenix and Honolulu. Rudy owned and

operated two "Rudy's Italian Restaurants" in Waikiki for 25 years.

I worked at Rudy's for 3 years with my brother Anthony. It was there I learned the importance of being a hands-on owner. People came from all over the world to visit "*Rudy's*", enjoying the food, the wine and the gracious host.

In the fall of 1999, I opened **Rocco's Ristorante & Pizzeria**. I have tried to maintain that same warm and inviting feeling my father and uncle provided for so many years. My family hopes you enjoy your visit and will come see us again! **Rocco Biale, your host**

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Note: all event information is subject to change. Please consult the Zone 7 website or the host Region's website for details.

8/6-7/05	GGR	Time Trial	Time Trial @ Thunderhill
8/13/05	LPR	Autocross	Zone Autocross @ Marina
8/14/05	GGR	Autocross	Zone Autocross @ Marina
8/19-21	MBR	Event	Monterey Historics @ Laguna Seca
8/25-28	RR	Event	Escape to the Wine Country
9/3/05	RR	Autocross	Region Autocross @ Santa Rosa Airport
9/10/05	SVR	Autocross	Zone Autocross @ Stockton Fairgrounds
9/11/05	YR	Autocross	Zone Autocross @ Stockton Fairgrounds
9/17-18	GGR	Time Trial	Time Trial @ Thunderhill
9/17/05	GGR	Autocross	Region Autocross @ Location TBD
9/18/05	DR	Concours	Blackhawk Plaza @ Danville
9/24-25	SVR	Rally	Carrera de Sierra Loomis @ Tahoe
9/25/05	LPR	Autocross	Region Autocross @ Marina
TBD	GGR	Rally	Coyote Run @ Location/Date TBD
10/1/05	SVR	Autocross	Region Autocross @ Stockton Fairgrounds
10/2/05	RR	Concours	Ledson Winery @ Santa Rosa
10/8/05	GGR	Autocross	Region Autocross @ Location TBD
TBD	GGR	Rally	Location/Date TBD
10/16/05	LPR	Autocross	Region Autocross @ Marina
TBD	RR	Autocross	Region Autocross @ Santa Rosa Airport
TBD	SVR	Swap Meet	Silverstar Motors
TBD	SQR	Autocross	Zone Autocross @ Millerton Lake
TBD	YR	Autocross	Zone Autocross @ Millerton Lake
10/29/05	GGR	Autocross	Region Autocross @ Location TBD
Location/Date TBD			Zone presidents Meeting
Location/Date TBD			Zone 7 Presidents Meeting & Banquet



Special Events

Hot August Night at the Packwood's • August 6th @ 6:30pm hosted by the Packwood's • 925.949.8812 • p9146gt1@yahoo.com • see ad for more info

Poker Rally • August 13th hosted by the Eskildsen's and the Carpenter's • see ad for more info

Escape to the Wine Country • August 25 - 28th hosted by Redwood Region PCA • see ad for more info

Blackhawk Concours d'Elegance • September 18th hosted by Diablo Region PCA • see ad for more info

Porsche Platz @ Mazda Raceway (Laguna Seca) ALMS Race • October 13 - 16th • hosted by Diablo Region PCA

Recurring Monthly Events

Saturday Breakfast • 8am @ Denny's 803 Camino Ramon, Danville Every Saturday (unless noted)

Pizza & Porsches • 7pm @ Pavlo's Pizza 2408 Twin Creeks, San Ramon First Friday of every month

Board of Directors Meeting • 7pm @ the French's home First Tuesday of every month

Thursday Night Dinner Out • 6:30pm @ Rocco's Ristorante 2909 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek Third Thursday of every month



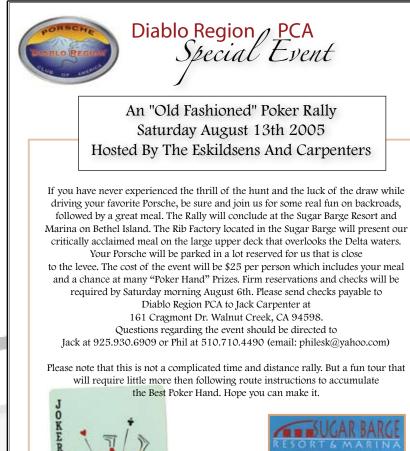
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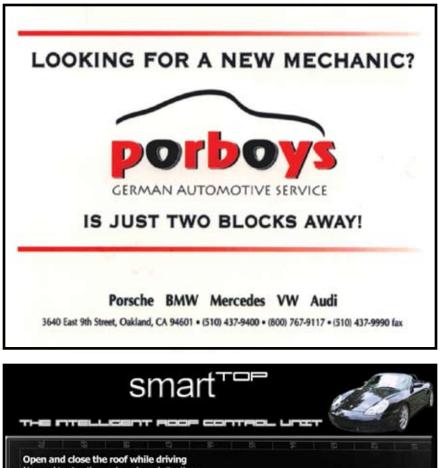
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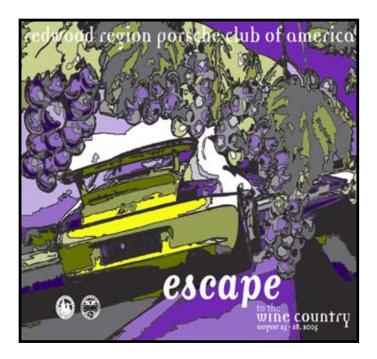












What more could a Porsche lover ask for? Great roads, Porsche friends, and the beautiful scenery of Wine Country! We invite you to join us for four days of fun.

The schedule is as follows:

Thursday Evening

Welcoming Party and Registration Sign in, pick up your goodie bag, then relax with plenty of food and wine.

Friday Tours

Redwood Region boasts that we have the best roads in PCA. We have six different tours that will allow you to find out that we're right!

Because this is "Escape to Wine Country" We've arranged for six different bus tours, so you can sample the wines without the driving risks. We're supplying PCA member/docents to help you enjoy the experience.

Saturday Car Show

We've arranged for historic cars, rare cars, and we have a place reserved for your car as well. Because this is not a concours, we hope to have everyone's car on display. Additionally, we'll have vendor displays, wine tasting, and lunch available.

Saturday Night Banquet

Because there are no competitive events, this is not an awards banquet. As a keynote speaker, we have, none other than Alois Ruf. It promises to be an evening you won't want to miss!

Sunday IRL at Infineon Raceway

We will have a special Porsche Corral at the IRL race at Infineon Raceway. This will be the first road race for IRL. Anyone else interested in whether these guys can turn right?

Registration starts at \$25! All event fees can be added a la carte. Registration opens April 15, 2005. For details and registration form go to red.pca.org/escape.html

Redwood Region PCA

presents Escape to the Wine Country August 25-28

The Spring Pfling at Philo - The Roederer Estate Tour

It was a bright and sunny morning, 8:00am on Saturday May 14 to be precise, and the Spring Pflingers were buzzing with anticipation. Not your usual Danville Denny's breakfast group, oh no. In this case, a rather unusual tour called "The Spring Pfling at Philo" had lured 41 curiously thirsty participants to tempt a full day's driving tour into the heart of California's remote Anderson Valley. More than curious, they'd heard prophecies of a remarkable driving experience, an unprecedented tour of a premier sparkling wine vineyard (most people would say champagne, but let's not quibble), a Concours competition, a Photo Rallye competition, and a catered buffet to soak up the bubbly. Figuring either somebody was nuts or a brazen liar to suggest this could be done in a day, these adventurers were risking all of \$30 per head to get to the promised land - the renowned Roederer Estate.

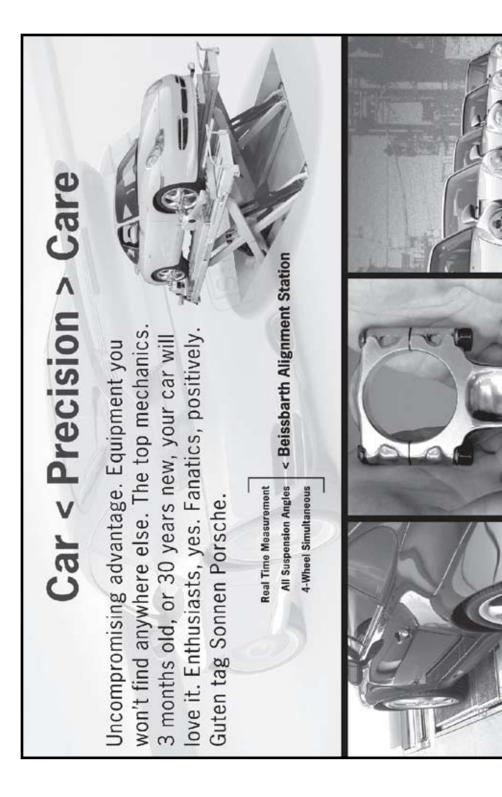
Blessed with sunny weather, 23 Porsches chomped at the bits to get underway. With insurance forms signed, photos taken, last minute instructions dispatched, and walkie-talkies tuned to channel 917, the group cranked up and smartly departed Denny's at 8:30am. Next stop, 100 miles north near Geyserville for a 10:00am bio break.

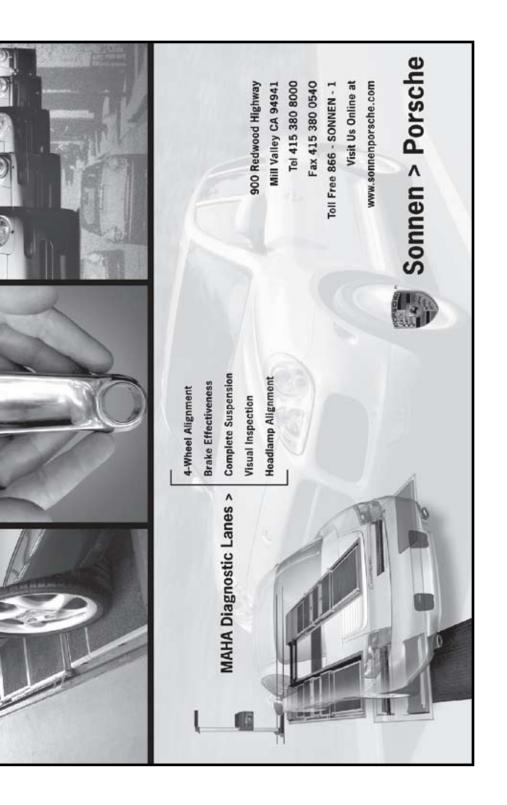
Of course it took two changes of lights at Denny's to get the full group of 23 cars launched onto

the highway. That also left yours truly, tour leader "Blue One", with the immediately challenge of juggling walkie-talkie and cell phone to engage the tour "Sweeper". Designated Sweeper, KC Sharp, the better half of Zone 7 Rep Larry Sharp, reported all was well, as the Diablo Region convoy swept up through the Berkeley Tunnel and down into Oakland to brave the Saturday morning IKEA mob on 580 in Emeryville.

And that's when it all nearly went down the toilet. Tour leader Blue One, momentarily overcome by beautiful views of San Francisco Bay, the converging heavy traffic, and a tour group oddly lagging behind, suddenly noticed that the viper green 914 behind him wasn't on course to follow his lane change, and that was a massive problem. Fortunately, he quickly reconsidered his choice of lanes in the face of Eugenie Thomas's obviously different perspective. Blue One abruptly changed over and in the nick of time converged on North 580, narrowly, very narrowly averting a disastrous turn that led irretrievably to the San Francisco Bay Bridge tolls. With a sigh of relief, Blue One got down to the business of moving the group safely north over the Richmond Bridge and onto 101 in San Rafael for the remaining 80 mile run to Geyserville.

Running north up 101 was basically a straight shot, traffic was running pretty light, the group was on schedule, and contact with the Sweeper indicated the tail was about a mile to a mile and a half back. What could go wrong, right? Well, even







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the group was on schedule, and contact with the Sweeper indicated the tail was about a mile. to a mile and a half back. What could go wrong, right? Well, even now Blue One had failed to realize that Mr. Murphy, of Murphy's Law, was actually his copilot, and about to rear his ugly head again. Converging on the turn-off to the intended rest stop, which was supposed to be Souverain Road, Mr. Murphy instead suggested taking one road too early, and we did. Two things became immediately apparent. First, that Blue One had led a group to exit prematurely, and two, that a set of Porsches had missed the turnoff and could be seen roaring past. Not good. A guick cell call to the Sweeper set a chase into motion, as Blue One doggedly lead the mini-group along Gevserville Avenue to beautiful Trentadue Winery, and a breather, precisely at 10:00am.

With incredible efficiency, and minimal waste of time, the Sharp Sweepers herded the wayward ones back to Trentadue, with one notable exception. Somehow we lost Patrick Schmidt, veteran Porsche tour guide, but we figured (wrong) that he'd show up any minute, or eventually rendezvous en route. By 10:30, with photos taken, bladders emptied, and no sign of Patrick, the group reformed and headed up the remaining 38 miles on Hwy 101 North to Ukiah, before turning west there for a magic ride of 19 miles over 2000+ elevation foot hills before caroming into Boonville. I say magic, because how else does one describe an 8/10ths blast over a winding mountain

road in beautiful weather with absolutely no traffic going or coming? Amazingly, the group enjoyed the romp to Boonville unfettered by obstructionist traffic for at least 17 miles of Alpinesque switchbacks and views, and you simply could not get the smiles off the peoples faces after that.

Regrouping briefly to decompress at the Boonville junction with Hwy 128, the group then headed northwest to Philo six miles away, arriving about 11:45 at the gates of gates of Roederer Estate. Immediately upon entering the Estate, Blue One was immediately greeted by the Estate's Master Wine maker, Arnaud Weyrich, and directed to park the group in a prominent hillside perch, immediately next to no other than the wayward Schmidt, who was joyfully waving down to us. Moments later, 22 Porsches safely parked, the participants grabbed a couple of quick photos, then made their way up to the Estate's patio, only to be immediately confronted with champagne flutes appropriately filled with chilled bubbly, and proffered by our host, notably Sharon Sullivan of the Estate. This extraordinary aperitif, contributed to the general buzz of excitement, as the group settled into conversation on the patio, with a wondrous view looking out on Anderson Valley in the background, and their Porsches in the foreground.

by Warren Gardner, Membership Director

Part One in a Series...





















Gale Goes to the Races...

On 4/11/2004 Gale Vorkapich attended the Coastal Driving School at Thunder Hill. She participated, for the first time in her life, in high speed driving. It was a hot but fun day. I was her groupie, photographer, and pit crew if necessary. She was thrilled and excited. The instructors were fantastic. She got approximately 2 hours of track time for her \$150.00 entrance fee. That's more time than a dozen autocrosses. Just ask her about turn #5 (Eagles Nest) and you'll find out how much she enjoyed the driving school.

The school is a safe and fun way to learn high speed driving. An instructor is assigned to all novice drivers for the whole day. Strict safety rules are rigorously informed.

How did I feel about all this. I was a little nervous since I had never been at a race track before. I was also excited for Gale. Frankly, I think it's safer than driving on the freeway or in my office parking lot. Since Gale has driven sports cars for 35 years, I was not worried about her performance on the track. She also had read Hank Watts book, "Secrets of Solo Racing". She told me that she applied the throttle and brakes with great vigor.

This year she talked me into attending the Coastal Driving School with her at Reno-Fernly. We both had a great adventure and a lot of fun. She said Sergio was a great instructor. My Reno-Fernly photos, however, are not worthy.

by Mike Vorkapich, Treasurer, Autocrosser









in Conjunction with the Porsche Club of America Diablo Region,

Blackhawk Automotive Museum presents the 7th Annual

Concours d'Elegance



Sunday September 18th, 2005 from 8am - 2pm

Display/Judging Categories Concours Competition Street Wash & Shine Display Only (no judging) "Glad You Came" (free Porsche corral)

> Special Awards "People's Choice" Blackhawk "Best of Show"

for more information, contact Eugenie Thomas 925.313.9067 • eugenie959@yahoo.com Details such as fees, etc. can be found on our website www.pca.org/dia

This is a Zone 7 event for points

My First Porsche ...

It has been requested that the members write about the first Porsche that we had purchased. So in this spirit I submit a tale of my first Porsche and hope all other members do the same.

My wife, Clar was making noises about retiring her Datsun 280Z and getting something else, so I was on the lookout for cars that she might like. One day one of my clients said that he needed to get rid of some items in his back lot including a 924 Porsche. This was one of those "car for sale" moments. I was drawn into the back lot for a look.

It was a 924 Porsche for certain, but beyond that all other points were strictly conjecture. The car was black with the white spray painted zigzag graffiti that young hoodlums use to mark their territory not unlike roque dogs marking the neighborhood post, hydrants, and trees. I tried the doors but they were locked. As I squinted through the dirt and zigzags on the side glass, I could see the gear lever was out and laying on the floor. The car was straight saving some small dings and the paint overall looked OK.

I went back in and asked the price. It was in my normal buying range. Anything in 3 figures always got my attention. Asked about the "history and condition" my client, whom I trusted considering our relationship, said it was a former employees car. "It was running when he parked it back there. He owed me money so when he quit, I kept the car". I figured the Porsche would cleanup and made the deal. Good car for Clar I thought.

The next day I returned to take the car. "Where are the keys to the doors" I asked. "The doors are not locked." my Client said. I went back to the car and tried the drivers door. It didn't open. I gave a harder pull and the door came off and hit the ground, almost getting my foot. Back inside the office, my efforts to renegotiate the price failed. If I wanted the car that was the price. I was at that time of life when I knew I could fix anything, so I made the deal. After all it was a Porsche.

Carefully placed in the home garage, I invited Clar out to look at her "New Car". She opened the garage door took one look and slammed the door. Well at least I have a "New Porsche" I thought. The 924 cleaned up and polished out very nicely. It also started up on the first try. Reattaching the door took a little more work but I created a very strong fix. Not a Porsche one but one that would not fail again. Of interesting note, I looked at several 924s in the bay area and many had the same problem with the driver's side doors. The factory had engineered 4 spot welds to hold the vertical back portion of the hinge to the vertical section of the doorframe. But it looks like that the weld machine failed to make the fourth weld. In researching a fix I found with only 3 welds and a weak door stop strap, most early 924s I saw had broken drivers side door hinges. A 924 door is very very heavy.

In the end I had a rather nice 924. Clar would barely come near it. The first look being too much of a shock I presume. The 924 is a heavy car and I could not fall in love with it so I sold it for a nice profit and bought my first 911. But that isn't a story I am ready to tell yet.

by Frank Cunningham





Thanks to all who joined the tour. Starting the "Agricultural Tour" at Denny's had the added benefit of introducing some new members to the Diablo tradition of Breakfast on Saturday morning, every Saturday. We were able to add two cars to the tour as Brian Cameron and Jennifer Moak wanted to join us for the Saturday part of the tour.

I believe the trip down the East side of the Pinnacles on Hwy. 25 is one of the best Porsche roads in the country. If you have not experienced it, it's worth the extra effort. A sign just past Hollister points out "No Services Next 76 Miles." That also means no crossroads. At the Pinnacles, the last non-Porsche pulled off the road and we did not see another car until we completed the wonderful drive over hills with sweeping turns and great scenery.

Once we arrived in Paso Robles, we took Vinevard Road to Norman Winery. Art Norman graciously spent some time with us at a lunch catered by Odyssey World Café. Art has hosted the Diablo Region several times as he is a close friend of Jo Molz, a great lady and past Diablo Board member. Art added to the "Agricultural Tour" details by commenting on some of his favorite wines. He also chatted about the grounds and gardens that include a 400+ year old Valley Oak. Thanks for vour Hospitality, Art. We hope more of our members stop to enjoy your Winery and wines.



We'll be back!

After experiencing some more of the great Porsche roads in the Paso Robles wine country our next stop was Justin Vineyards and Winery. Both of these wineries are notes as "Far Out Wineries in Paso Robles. Chimney Rock Road is another "road less traveled" and well worth the effort to find it. At Justin's, Lisa, the Social Director, and her team did a great job of making our experience very enjoyable by providing an outdoor tasting on the grounds near their gardens and pool. Everyone could unwind after a wonderful day of driving. Temps were in the low 90's but a very comfortable breeze, a lot of shade and great hospitality made the tasting experience wonderful. Thanks Lisa and all of the helpers at Justin's for making this stop memorable. We'll be back to see you again soon and encourage our friends to do the same.

The wines at Justin's were popular as were the gifts in the boutique. Linda found several great soft cheeses and crackers that would enhance the next stop on the tour. We headed over to the Sea Coast Lodge in San Simeon on Hwy. 46. Once again, several cars pulled over to let us pass and we had the road to ourselves. Great vistas of the Morro Bay from the 1800-foot summit let us observe that the fog had never receded from Morro Bay. San Simeon was clear and the temps were in the 60's. The cool temps were quite a welcome change from the warm inland valleys.

Once everyone checked into the Sea Coast Lodge, we gathered at poolside for a tasting of some great Paso Robles and Central Coast wines and the cheeses from Justin's. Many tales were shared of the day's drives and wines. As the sunset, the group dispersed to enjoy their restaurant of choice in Cambria and San Simeon.

We gathered on Sunday morning for the continental breakfast at the Sea Coast Lodge. Several folks wanted to see Hearst Castle, a few wanted to stay and enjoy San Simeon and Cambria. Seven cars headed up the Coast Highway, leaving San Simeon around 9:30 AM. With the sun pushing the fog back, the views and roads were incredible. A morning drive up the Coast takes some planning and effort, but well worth it. We arrived in Big Sur around 11 am and stopped at another great location, the Nepenthe Restaurant. A picture says 1000 words, so please see the pictures.

Thanks to all of the participants for joining the fun on the tour. This was the first time Linda and I lead an overnight tour and you made it very memorable.

Cheers, Pat and Linda

Participant Comments:

Tom and Carol Sullivan:

Thanks again Patrick and all for a great trip! This was our first PCA event and we look forward to many more.

Deems Padgett:

Thank you again for a great event. I know a lot of work goes into coordinating these events and I really appreciate your efforts. Wine, California coast, and Porsches - what could be better? In the hot (but not too hot) inland region, you picked out two great wineries and lunch was really tasty. Thanks again for organizing everything and not getting us lost!

John and Joy Wagnon:

Great drive! Joy and I really enjoyed ourselves with this touring group – we could have kept going...... A special thanks to Linda for hosting the refreshments. We really enjoyed this outing and hope this group can do it again and again and again.....



















NEW/ALLCOMERS PARTY

Saturday, August 6, 2005, 6:30PM Hosted by Bill/Rory Packwood 81 Victoria Dr., Pleasant Hill

The summer New/Allcomers Party for 2005 will be held at the home of Bill and Rory Packwood.

Burgers, brats and beverages will be supplied by the Club. Door Prizes, too!!!

Members with last name beginning with A-M, please bring a salad; N-Z, bring a dessert.

RSVP Bill/Rory at 925.949.8812 or p9146gt1@yahoo.com by July 30.

OLDCOMERS: \$10/person. NEWCOMERS: just bring yourselves; come and meet us.

DIRECTIONS: From Hwy. 24, exit Pleasant Hill road North (stay left onto Taylor Blvd.) and continue to Pleasant Hill Rd. Turn left and then right at the first Street (Devon), continue to Gail and left to Victoria Circle.



Diablo Region PCA

Garage Sale

For Sale: '92 white w/ tan interior Porsche 911 C-2 Cabriolet with less than 51,000



miles. Known to Diablo members as "TIP4DEB" (license plate), it has a tiptronic transmission, 17" wheels and new Bridgestone Potenza S-03 tires. The convertible top was replaced around a year ago. This C-2 could easily win a Concours! Call Debbie at (510) 996-2850.

For Sale: 1986 951 76000 original miles, guards red, black full leather, very outstanding example, fastidiously maintained by older driver. must see this car to fully appreciate condition. \$12900. Contact Steve at 925-323-2750.

For Sale: 1986 911 Cabriolet parts:

Sold: engine, brain box, tranny, wheels, brakes, gauges, sport seats, seat belts.

Parts available: Suspension upgrade for pre '86 cars: front/rear torsion bars, \$175. Suspension upgrade for early cars: Carrera rear trailing arms with hubs, \$500. Racer starting set: tub, stripped, nearly ready for dipping: \$295. Convert early 911 to power brakes: master cylinder, booster, pedal assembly: \$250. Convert a targa to a convertible: complete top, boot, key pieces: \$1995. 16" used tires, good rubber, \$80. Fenders, doors, hood, engine cover, flares, bumpers. Rear reflective Porsche banner, \$250. Factory-new interior floor carpeting (4 pieces), \$150. Full interior and trunk carpeting. Other electrical and functional pieces. Email hank@CAMDesigns.com or call 408-245-4040.

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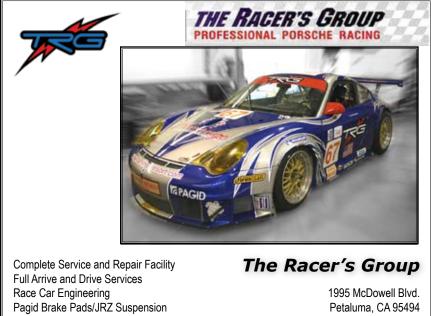


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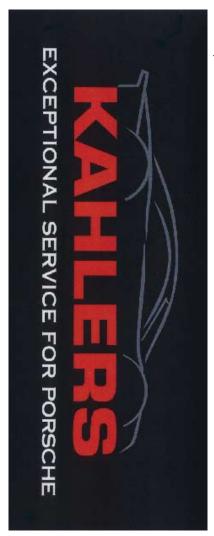
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