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Wilderness Trail Region Porsche Club of America

DECEMBER '07 NEWSLETTER

December '07 — Rick Hill Porsche Called to order by President Greg Miller

Greg started the meeting by presenting a long sleeved shirt with our WTR logo to us. He had them made by the same company who made the shirts for our DE this summer. These are very smart looking shirts—anyone wanting to purchase one please contact Greg.

Barbara Lang, Treasurer, reported that we have \$6,400 in our treasury, which included \$238 (rebate) from PCA from new memberships.

Greg welcomed new member Rebecca Little, who has a new Cayman, along with David Miranda and Phil Gibson to our meeting. We look forward to Rebecca's future participation. Greg thanked Rick Hill for his hospitality in allowing us to have our meeting at Rick Hill Porsche.

Our Christmas Party/Dinner is this weekend December 8th, starting @ 6:30 with sit-down dinner at 7:30 by the Troutdale. Greg and Nicole have arranged for a guitarist, pianist and vocalist for our entertainment. We have over 40 confirmed reservations and it should be a fun evening. If you have not been to the Miller's new residence you are in for a treat! *Do not forget to see Greg's special artwork in the driveway!!!*

For an update on club activities since last meeting, Greg, Craig, Randy and Wayne attended the Carolina's Region D E at V I R this past weekend. They reported that due to 180 entries they only had 3-runs on Saturday. Unfortunately, a Mustang race car with roll bar and cage crashed at the end of the main straight due to a faulty brake line. This totaled the car but the safety features of the car allowed the driver and instructor or passenger to escape serious injury. Greg stated that for any of our future D E's we must be very diligent with tech inspections as this is very crucial for the safety of every one of our participants.

While at V I R this past weekend, Greg joined the V I R Club. This has many benefits, including practice days and discounts for members only. Anyone interested in joining please call Gina Drastal @ 434-822-7700 X-111 or visit the web site at: www.virclub.com. Also, Greg checked on dates for our D E next year. March 18th and September 11th are the only dates available; however, he will verify again with V I R as some members felt the March weather could be questionable. Greg recommended we limit the Novice class to 20 and with a total of around 70 and three (3) run groups. By starting at 8:00 A. M. and running to 5:00, everyone should get to run at least 4 or 5 times.



PCA Zone 3 Representative

Allan Cox
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Ed Yates recommended we get the new V I R contract to Allen Cox @ PCA for review and to verify the language with regard to spectators. Greg said he would do that as quickly as he was able to obtain the new contract and he would talk to Allen at our Christmas Party this weekend.

Greg asked everyone to give consideration as to how they may assist at our D E because we will definitely need several volunteers to run the event smoothly. He also stated that our deposit and reservation can be withdrawn 31 or more days from the D E date with some loss of funds; however, after 30 days, there is no refund. This also applies to our entrants.

Moving along to Rennsport '07 at Daytona International Speedway...Ed and Hugh reported the event was outstanding for any Porsche enthusiast. Cars and drivers from all over the world were there. Bob Varsha was Master of Ceremonies Friday evening and introduced over 45 Porsche drivers from 20 to over 80 years old. While watching these introductions and awards they sat with a gentleman in a yellow uniform and after chatting learned he was the Director of Racing for Penske. Meeting this gentleman was a great find as he welcomed our club to tour the Penske facilities in Mooresville, N C and access to the Penske Paddock at race events. There were Porsche race cars up to 40 years old and on Friday they practiced. Saturday they formed a Concourse the entire length of Pit Road and later qualified to race. The Concourse allowed for some wonderful photos and meeting the car owners and crews. On Sunday, these amazing restored race cars put on an exciting show of racing to the delight of everyone. This venue will be repeated in 2010.

For 2008, Greg reported Barbara and Hugh would again accept the Treasurer and Secretary-Newsletter Editor positions respectively. He will select a Vice President before our next meeting in January '08. The membership had no objection and looked forward to '08.

Greg asked if there was any interest in holding an Autocross. Some discussion followed and Tom Raymond stated that most public parking lots or shopping centers would not allow such an event due to liability issues. Tom suggested we talk to Mark Finley for his input and particulars. Mark was not present tonight.

Sandy Roberts reported on he and his son Shane's experience attending the Baja desert truck race in Mexico. His son Shane was selected by Mr. Stacy to drive a session in one of his two entries and Sandy drove the semi rig across country and back. Shane and the other drivers with his truck finished the race in 53 hours and 5 minutes. What a great accomplishment for the first time out! They met several teams who had attended the race for 20 years and have never finished a race yet! Going down the CA coast they saw whales in the ocean and then were amazed at the desert and mountains in Mexico. They said the desert was so dry and desolate that nothing could live there-not even snakes (!) Sandy said they really enjoyed the experience and opportunity and hoped to do it again in the future.

Ed Yates reported that he and Kernie Timmons were working on two plaques. One plaque is for member Steve Johnson who was so gracious to take 20 to 25 people a ride (*at his expense!*) in his Cup car during our D E @ V I R. The second plaque is for Synergy Racing—they rolled out the hospitality red carpet for our Club and friends to use their property for our cook-out and to tour their facilities. How Steve endured the 100 plus degree heat in his driving suit and race car is a mystery but we really appreciated his kindness. I suppose he is *truly an athlete* which is why he played professional football. THANKS TO STEVE JOHNSON AND SYNERGY RACING FOR ADDING SO MUCH TO OUR D E.

Ed read the highlights of the '08 European trip in September by Fast Lane Travel/Peter Sontag. This information was also e-mailed this to the club and he recommended anyone interested in going to sign up ASAP. Ed and Susie have been on several trips leg by Mr. Sontag and highly recommends any trip that he sponsors.

Nancy Stitt and Greg Miller won door prizes donated by Tom Raymond-thanks, TOM! We are delighted that this was Nancy's first time to win anything —and it happened at our WTR meeting! Congratulations!

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD JANUARY 7TH AT RUSH STREET GRILL ON STONE DRIVE IN KINGSFORT. ARRIVE BEFORE 6:00 P. M. TO ORDER SO OUR MEETING CAN BE STARTED AT 6:30 P. M.