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Wilderness Trail Region Porsche Club of America

FEBRUARY'08 NEWSLETTER

February' 08 —Giuseppe's Restaurant Meeting called to order by President Greg Miller

No new members were in attendance and Don Osborne was our guest, invited by Hugh Tackett. Barbara Lang reported that after paying PCA insurance for our DE and a deposit to VIR, we had \$3,982.32 in the treasury. This also includes some rebates from PCA from memberships. In accounts receivable we have approximately \$7,500 from registrants to our March DE that we should receive soon.

In January, several members attended a DE at Roebing Road in Savannah. There was a seminar for instructors and our instructors that attended this event received National Certification from PCA. There was a great deal of rain on Saturday which gave all participants experience on wet roads. Rebecca Little attended, had a wonderful time for her first DE and it was reported that Kerner Timmons kept her "reigned in" as her instructor. Rebecca wants to attend more events, GO GIRL!!!

Eddie Pyle gave a report on the Rolex 24 hour race at Daytona. It was a typical 24 hour race with fairly good weather and mixture of some rain and clouds with moderate sunshine. Steve Johnson in car #81 from Synergy Racing and team car #80 finished the race. The #81 car seemed as though it had a target painted on the back because three (3) cars ran into them causing them to lose many laps repairing the car. He and Kirstin attended plus the Yates and Tackett's. Overall, it was a good race and more of the club should try to attend next year.

Our next DE is on March 18th, so far we have 30 participants signed up of which 14 are Novice. We will limit the Novice class to 20 and hope to have 20 instructors for these drivers. If you plan to go we urge you to call VIR and make reservations for your accommodations and garage, if you want to stay on site. These will start going fast and we have not blocked any you are on your own. The next closest motels are west toward Danville on route #52, the Best Western and Sleep Inn. You can register at www.motorsportreg.com. Non PCA members will be charged an additional \$25 for registration. Tom Raymond suggested we contact other car clubs such as Corvette, Audi, Ferrari, etc. The event this year will be smaller by design, allowing more room on the track and possibly longer run times.

Greg asked again who might be interested in doing an Autocross. Last month several members seemed interested and Greg asked them to them stay after the meeting but no one stayed. If we are going to do an Autocross someone needs to take a leadership role and Chair the event so we can get organizational meetings going. This event was also mentioned as our charity event, allowing us to donate all monies from the event to a worthy charity, such as The Children's Charities.

We are getting close to the date we can register for The Parade in Charlotte from June 27th through July 5th. The registration date is March 11th, after registering you can make a reservation with the host hotel, The Westin-but not before. The registration will be on a lottery basis and the quicker you register the more chance you will have of getting your reservation confirmed. See details in the January issue of Panorama or the e-mail I sent on February 7th from PCA. This is the largest Porsche event annually and we should make a great showing. The N C Region is going all out with their efforts in planning the event with PCA and there will be something for everyone.

Check it out!!!

Greg suggested we not try to redo the web site at this point due to the cost, which would really strain our treasury. Stan Mosley has updated our site quite a lot, making it more user friendly. Thanks to Stan for his efforts.

Last month we discussed Tom Raymond's suggestion of riding children in our cars during the BMS Festival of Lights for the holidays. Tom has talked to Kevin Triplett of BMS and he and Jeff Byrd are very excited about this event. Tom said he could assure a TV station to film the event giving us a lot of notoriety in the community. As we get closer to fall Tom will keep us advised.

Greg suggested we start Sunday drives in May and have one per month. He would appreciate if everyone would be thinking of places we could drive to, have lunch and return in 5 to 7 hours. We will need volunteers to Chair each ride, which will require planning our route getting the forms from PCA, etc. At our next meeting we need volunteers for these rides.

Guest Don Osborne gave a brief talk about how Wilderness Trail Region was started 30 years ago. He was in the Porsche Club at that time and they were in the Smokey Mountain Region, which meant driving to Knoxville for meetings/functions. After a few years they found a place half way between Tri-Cities and Knoxville (Pine Truck Stop) and started meeting there. In a short time a new Region was started and they thought because of our mountain area, Wilderness Trail name would be appropriate. One of the lady members, Dola Thompson an artist, designed our logo. Many of the ladies were also very experienced Autocross drivers and would win regularly. As a matter of fact several did as well at Autocross as the men. While in the WTR Don owned a 914-4, a 914-6 and had one of the first Carrera Whale Tails. While in the PCA, one of the first Parade's was held at the Biltmore in Asheville, N C. It was a fabulous setting and made some terrific photo opportunities. Everyone thanked Don for coming and giving us some history of how our Region was started and invited him to join PCA again.

Our next meeting will be March 3rd @ Giuseppe's in Kingsport. Should anyone not in attendance at our last meeting, have an issue with this choice, please visit some restaurant locations and give us some alternatives. Call/E-Mail Greg and discuss any additional choices in ample time to notify our membership.



#81 Team car from Synergy Racing

Anyone interested in track days at many different tracks, check out www.chinmotorsports.com.

This organization has track days at Barber Motorsports, Watkins Glen, Summit Point, Atlanta, Roebing Road, Sebring, Homestead and many more. By joining their group (many of our members have) they offer preferential registration and benefits and run a very professional outing.

For those members who have joined the VIR club, you should be getting your schedule of events any day. There are many club days just for members allowing you to have more private track days.

Greg expressed disappointment that more members did not attend our Monday meeting at Giuseppe's. Many members expressed discontent with Rush Street last month due to the size of the room and slow service. So he visited Ridgefield Country Club and Giuseppe's to improve on our meeting place. Ridgefield could only accommodate us on Tuesday evenings and Giuseppe's came to the rescue with a great room and menu this evening. The room will accommodate over 60 and will be needed if our Region continues to increase in membership. Greg asked if everyone was pleased with our meeting room, food and service and everyone unanimously approved this location for next month. Greg suggested that anyone not present, who may have an issue with Giuseppe's, to take a day and find a more suitable location for our club. Keeping in mind a central location that would be convenient from J. C., Bristol and Kingsport. Feel free to contact him and discuss this issue via phone or e-mail. His e-mail address is on the front page.

MORE PICTURES FROM ROLEX 24 HOUR RACE-DAYTONA



#81 Steve Johnson car from Synergy Racing



Grand Marshall Dan Gurney



1960 Porsche Spyder



Daytona Prototype Porsche from Brumos



#80 Car from Synergy Racing



Rolex Victory Circle Queens-The Professor insisted I include this picture!!!