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Wilderness Trail Region Porsche Club of America

JANUARY '08 NEWSLETTER

January '08 — Rush Street Grill Meeting called to order by President Greg Miller

Greg welcomed everyone and recommended we approve Craig Haltom for Vice President. Greg considered filling this position and had spoken to Craig about it. Craig accepted Greg's invitation and our membership accepted Greg's recommendation with no opposition. Congratulations ,Craig!!!

New guests tonight: Steve Lohoff, Bill Bell, Fernando Zepeda, Jason Poteat, Duane Barnes and, it's always great to see Smokey Mountain Region member, Bob Southerland , who attends our functions frequently.

Barbara Lang gave a treasurer's report. We have approximately \$6,600 in our treasury and we continue to receive credits from PCA for new members and other functions.

Greg reported that several members have not paid for their Christmas dinners and would like to have everyone do so since he paid our caterer personally. If you have not paid, please contact our Treasurer, Barbara Lang, and make those arrangements. Everyone agreed that The Troutdale did a superb job— the food and service was excellent!!! The vocalist and musicians were also wonderful and added so much to the evening. OUR THANKS TO GREG AND NICOLE FOR OPENING THEIR BEAUTIFUL HOME TO OUR PORSCHE CLUB AND ARRANGING FOR THE OUTSTANDING DINNER AND MUSICIANS!!!

Our lovely host Nicole Miller is featured with Christina Lawhon and Barbara Lang. OK guys, please look at the lovely ladies and not the race car in the background!



There was a discussion on how to make our web site be more "user friendly" and Greg reported that Derek Tackett had talked to two companies locally in great detail and it appears that it will cost between \$3,000 and \$5,000 depending on how we want it set up. Tom Raymond said this would be a bargain if it could be done, because he is aware of companies that have paid three or four times that amount to have web sites created. Greg will appoint a committee to look into the feasibility of a web site and report back at a future meeting.



The "Thorn" (Junior) between two roses.

Our two D E dates have been confirmed by V I R, Tuesday March 18th and Thursday September 11th. It has been designed for a 75 car limit with only 20 Novice cars, which of course will have instructors. We will start @ 8:00 AM and will have three (3) 30-minute run sessions. There will be three (3) run classes, Novice, Solo and Advanced. Anyone can register on the web site www.motorsportreg.com

Greg will have a D E meeting at his home on Wednesday the 9th @ 7:00 PM to discuss details of our first D E. T-shirts may or may not be done this time depending on sponsorship? We will not reserve a block of rooms at V I R this time as they are hard to manage. Everyone please call V I R direct to reserve their own room and/or garage for the event. **Their phone is 434-822-7000** and web site is www.virclub.com All members are asked to register early so we will know how many are available for non-members, allowing us to fill all 75 slots and hopefully be profitable.

Wes Adams reported that the Highlands trip for June is all set. Anyone interested should call the Hampton Inn direct per our memo last week. Dinner the first night is planned for Wolfgang's and The Log Cabin Inn the second night. With a cocktail party at the Lott's on Saturday evening before dinner. Greg asked everyone to volunteer in planning more trips and to contact him for so they can be added to our calendar.

The Audi Club has invited our Club to participate in a weekend they are having May-1 to 4. The planned touring routes are Deal's Gap (Tail of the Dragon), Blue Ridge Parkway and Asheville. More information is available on their club web site or contact Eddie at eddie@audiclubna.org

Greg suggested other ideas for club activities this year. Such as more drives (day or weekends), Autocross, Concours and other functions so we can have an opportunity to enjoy our Porsches. Several members showed interest in doing an Autocross and will meet with Greg after our meeting. It was reported there is an organization that will hold a D E for High School teenagers as community service which our club could possibly fund? This would be well received in our community and surely would be great Public Relations for WTR in the Tri-Cities.



The Tackett's, Timmon's, new member Rebecca Little & Guest and Robert's.

Mark Finley (not present due to his mother's illness) suggested the club donate to a food bank and challenge other Regions to match our donation. Kernie stated in the past that the club had done an Autocross and donated the funds for Mammograms and clinic visits to the working poor. Also previously we have donated money to the Boys and Girls Club. Kernie also reminded the club for any charity event we are involved, National PCA will give us a subsidy. Barbara also thinks we need to make one or two charitable events annually to remain non-profitable status.

Concerning any and all charities, 'Mike' Briggs suggested the club be very careful in selecting what charities we may donate to, as this can easily offend members since everyone has a favorite charity or cause.

As a way to increase interest in our Porsche Club and cars, Ed Yates suggested we speak to Rick Hill on splitting the first years membership to PCA for all new members. This would be a terrific way to possibly increase membership and attendance at our meetings for less than \$25 per year for WTR and Rick Hill Porsche. Greg will speak to Rick Hill regarding this proposal. GREAT IDEA PROFESSOR!!!

Tom Raymond reported the Speedsters Owners Club will again have a weekend on October 10-12 and everyone is invited. They will be touring Cherohala Skyway, Deal's Gap (The Dragon), Foothills Parkway and other surrounding roads. For more information go to www.speedstersownersclub.com Tom also suggested a wonderful Public Relations Service next November or December at Bristol Motor Speedway. Members would use our 'hot rods' and give kids a one-lap ride through the Speedway of Lights. We would all go together and could invite the news media to film the event as a community service. Tom is very acquainted with Jeff and Claudia Byrd and will propose this service to them and report back at our next meeting.



Julia Looney with our host President and Vice President. Nice company Julia.

Hugh reminded everyone of the **Porsche Parade** to be held in Charlotte this year from **Friday June 27 through Saturday July 5**. This is the largest PCA function annually and will be an event **no PCA member will want to miss!!!** The event has been held on the west coast the last 2 or 3 years and now everyone has an opportunity to be downtown Charlotte in less than a 4-hour drive from the Tri-Cities. There will be Concours (on downtown streets), special Porsche Paddock parking, parties, banquets, NASCAR shop tours, art shows, winery tours, tech sessions, Autocross (Lowe's Motor Speedway), tons of tours and driver education programs. **Please check the January 2008 issue of Panorama for all details. Particularly regarding registration and reservations for the host hotel.** As stated earlier this will be a fun event, **if you like Porsche cars this is the place to be the end of June and first part of July.**



Ed Yates presenting a plaque as our gratitude to member Steve Johnson for his all day rides in his Cup GT2 race car at our August D E



Vocalist and musicians for our Christmas Dinner

For those not in attendance, the pictures herein are from our Christmas Dinner, held at Greg and Nicole Miller's fabulous new residence in Kingsport. We appreciate Allan Cox, Zone 3 Southeast Representative, for taking the time to attend our dinner. Sorry his lovely wife Rose was ill and could not attend. Hopefully they will attend our Highlands trip again in June?

This month's seating arrangement at Rush Street Grill unfortunately was not done for maximum seating. We regret and apologize to Wayne and Carolyn Culbertson for not having adequate seating, forcing them to sit in the restaurant and miss our meeting. We will speak to the manager of Rush Street about rearranging the seating for next month's meeting. Should that not accommodate our meeting we will search for another meeting place. Thanks for your patience.

Our thanks to Johnathon (Junior) Nickels for submitting the photo's of our Christmas dinner at the Miller's and permission to use in our newsletter.

See everyone February 4th at Rush Street Grill for our next WTR meeting— Hugh Tackett, Newsletter Editor.