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Contents



FEATURES

- 5** Letter from the President
- 7** Strolling, Relaxing, Concours 1
- 13** A “City of Bridges” Summer Tour
- 19** Potter’s Picnic, 2022
- 23** TRAC Sponsors
- 25** AX 3: The Stars Were Aligned
- 26** Suspicion
- 29** Sharing Rallye 3
- 33** The Social Scene
- 34** 2022 Chicago Region Calendar
- 36** A Blackhawk “Two-fer”...
- 39** First SUV and Sports Car Track Day Event
- 42** In Passing: July 2019

Cover: Summer Driving Tour by *Derek Chen*
Top photo: Bolingbrook Concours by *Neil MacDonald*
Bottom photo: Potter’s Picnic by *Jeff Brown*



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Porsche Exchange	Back Cover
Discount Tire	Inside Back Cover
Lake Barrington Motorsports	6
Barnaba Autosport	9
Olsen Motorsports	11
Janet Marinis Group	12
Modern Illinois	15
Napleton Westmont Porsche	17
Midwest Performance Cars	18
Autobahn Country Club	21
Isringhausen Imports	24
Midwest Eurosport	27
Big Door	28
Porsche Auto Insurance	31
G Design Racing	32
O'Hare Auto Body	32
Roads United	34
Fischer Motors	35
Chuck Schank	37
Great Mortgage	37
Quadrant Motors	38
Windy City BMW	38
Disdain Garage	41
Kurt's German Autowerks	41

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Car Therapy: an Ode to Perfection

There are many reasons that owning a Porsche is a form of therapy, one that soothes the soul. When cruising the countryside, for example, there's no car more engaging, one that puts you at one with the road. All sense of time is lost as you look ahead for that next curve or straightaway. So, too, at the close of a long day at work: climbing into your Porsche is an instant refuge from the maddening world.

There's another therapeutic activity that comes with owning a Porsche, one that creates a sense of accomplishment while affirming an important ritual of car ownership. I'm talking here about cleansing: not by taking it to the local Beta Sonic AutoWash, but by means of a well and focused hand cleansing, removing the bugs, the dirt, and more. For me, it's taken years of washing our Macan to learn the best techniques of cleansing this iconic vehicle. Identifying the nooks and crannies where dirt and water accumulate takes patience to find. Over time, the intricacies of our Macan have revealed themselves, however reluctantly: which wash mitt to use, and where; how best to rinse; and (equally important for me) the drying part. This for me, while always the toughest task, is nevertheless an essential part of properly finishing this process and, so finished, a beauty to behold.

Somehow, and for unknown reasons, a freshly cleaned car seems to drive just a little bit better, a step quicker, a sharper turn in; and the brakes? A bit, well, brakier! And going for that short drive after you've finished washing your Porsche? It's an affirmation that brings a smile to my face and a sense of pride and respect for keeping this most special vehicle looking its best. And while that elevated feeling of accomplishment may soon sullied by the first bug that hits your windshield, the cycle is a reaffirmation of your commitment to perfection.

Therapy can be a lifelong journey. What better way to travel that road than in a Porsche?

Stanley Sangdahl
President, Chicago Region



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There are many reasons that owning a Porsche is a form of therapy, one that soothes the soul.
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Strolling, Relaxing, Concours 1

by Henrique Regina

Promenade: “to walk slowly along a street or path, usually where you can be seen by many people, for relaxation and pleasure; ... a wide path for walking on...”¹

And so it was: the first Concours of the 2022 season took place at The Promenade in Bolingbrook under a beautiful blue sky and comfortable temperatures. A total of 28 cars were entered the competition and for many this was their very first Concours. The judges had a difficult time with the scoring as the cars were uniformly well-prepared, so much so that in several instances, the judges relied on the tie breaking rules to decide the overall placements.

continued



photo: Jeff Brown

¹ Cambridge On-Line Dictionary, <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/promenade>.

Strolling, Relaxing, Concours 1 *continued*



This year the judging classes were revised, and now include the following:

- Touring / Grand Touring Class, which judges the exterior, interior, storage, and engine or chassis (depending on the car model);
- Show Class, which judges the exterior, interior and storage areas; and
- Exhibition Class, which only judges the exterior of the car.

In the Touring / Grand Touring Class, Michael Grove took first place with his 1986 911 Targa. Dave Magano took first place in Show Class with his 2000 Boxster S; and in Exhibition Class, Adam Kern took first place with his 2000 911 Carrera.

continued on page 10





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Strolling, Relaxing, Concours 1 *continued*



photo: Jeff Brown



This year we have two new judges-in-training: Kirk Owen, who worked with Michael Grove in judging the Exhibition Class, and Eric Wilmouth, who worked with Ron Bean in judging for the Grand Touring / Touring classes. Both Kirk and Eric also attended this year's concours judging school in April, and we're pleased to have them join our Concours program.

As with all of our Bolingbrook Concours events, almost thirty additional cars participated in the social aspects and displayed their cars informally for all to enjoy. The cars included a 1964 Porsche 356, many Boxsters, Caymans, 911s of all types, Cayennes, Macans, and a new Panamera Sport Turismo in red. With absolutely great weather and a bevy of beautiful Porsches, Concours 1 was a huge success and a great start to the season.

We're hopeful that attendance at this year's Potter's Picnic and Concours 2 will also remain strong, so see you at the next one! 🍌



photo: Jeff Brown



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A “City of Bridges” Summer Tour

by John Diwik

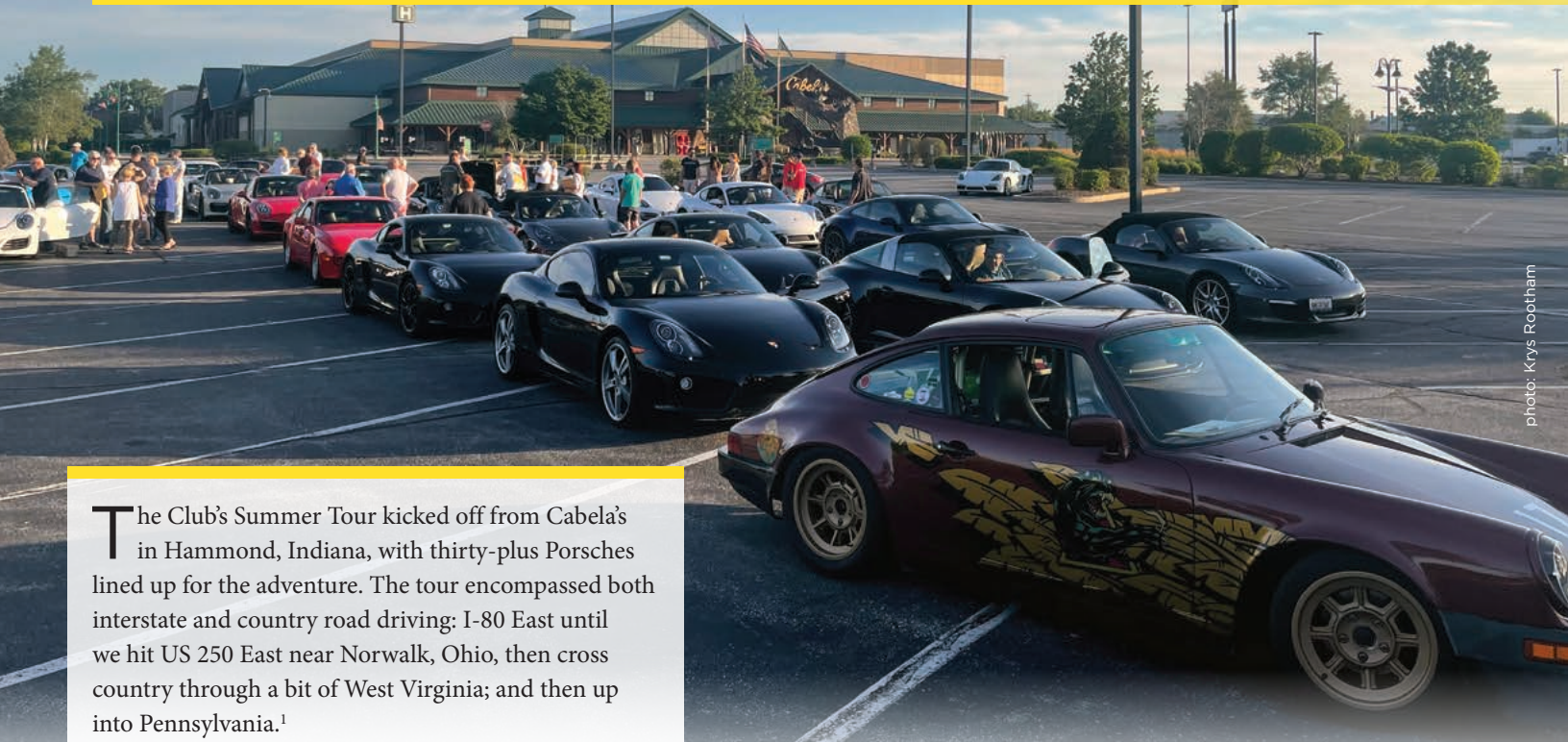


photo: Krys Rootham

The Club’s Summer Tour kicked off from Cabela’s in Hammond, Indiana, with thirty-plus Porsches lined up for the adventure. The tour encompassed both interstate and country road driving: I-80 East until we hit US 250 East near Norwalk, Ohio, then cross country through a bit of West Virginia; and then up into Pennsylvania.¹

On Friday we lunched at Hog Heaven in New Philadelphia, OH. It was a great BBQ meal and the stop gave everyone a chance to unwind from the workaday world. After lunch, we headed to Wheeling, West Virginia on US-250 E (a.k.a. the Road of Detours) for some crazy, hilly, winding beautiful roads, followed by our safe arrival in the City of Bridges later that afternoon . . .

After staging our cars on Saturday morning, we caravanned to Schenley Park for the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix, which runs from approximately 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each day. The morning traffic to the Park was very heavy, though, such that I caught a



continued

photo: Grace Chen



photo: Michael Bene

¹ One of our members had a mechanical issue on I-80, but our chase car, driven by Luis and Vilma Fraguada, pulled over and rendered timely assistance. They did a nice job, too: they arranged for the members’ car to be towed to Cleveland for prompt repairs, after which our happy wanderers arrived on Saturday in time for the cocktail party. That’s how we run!

A “City of Bridges” Summer Tour *continued*



photo: Gregory Lehman

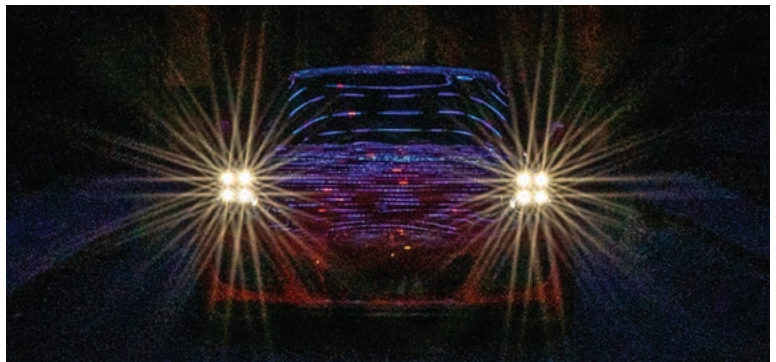
faint whiff of clutch as we inched forward. When we finally did arrive, we were welcomed by friends from the Allegheny Region, who had provided four large tents for dining, plenty of refreshments, food, and snow cones.

Late Saturday afternoon we were hit by thunderstorms with hail. Nowhere better to be—not!—in an electrical storm than on a golf course, which brought to mind that storm-on-golf-course scene in the movie *Caddyshack*.[®] Nevertheless, Saturday night’s cocktail party went well, with many new friends made, and long-time friendships renewed.

continued on page 16



photo: Grace Chen



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A “City of Bridges” Summer Tour continued

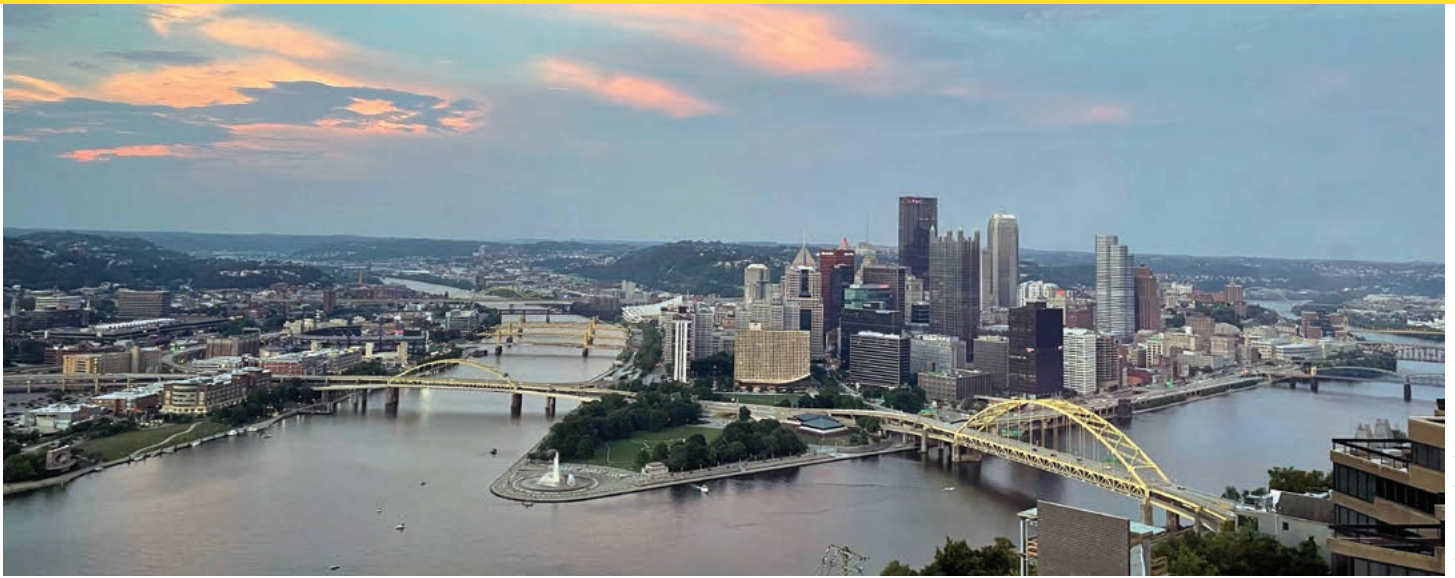


photo: Michael Grove

Back at Schenley Park the next morning, the traffic was lighter, the event was much less crowded, and the racing went on all day. The numerous classes were divided by displacement and organized so that the classes got faster as the event proceeded. What an event!



And speaking of storms, I was contacted early Sunday morning by folks at our dinner venue, informing us that because Saturday's storm had knocked out their power, they wouldn't be sure until after 2:30 p.m. whether the dinner was on or off. Steady, steady, don't get rattled, and sure enough, our dinner venue for 60 of our best friends came through: at 2:30 p.m., the Monterey Bay Seafood Grotto called to advise me that dinner was on, after all, with apologies for the uncertainty. We traveled to dinner in a motor-coach and were treated to a wonderful meal and fabulous views of Pittsburgh from atop Mt. Washington. I also broke out the "Schnauzer Joke" for old time's sake and we raffled off \$500.00 worth of Porsche swag. What an evening. It was a fantastic end to a fun weekend.

That's it for now; a good time was had by all, and we'll see you down Nashville way this fall. 🍷

photo: Derek Chen



photo: Derek Chen





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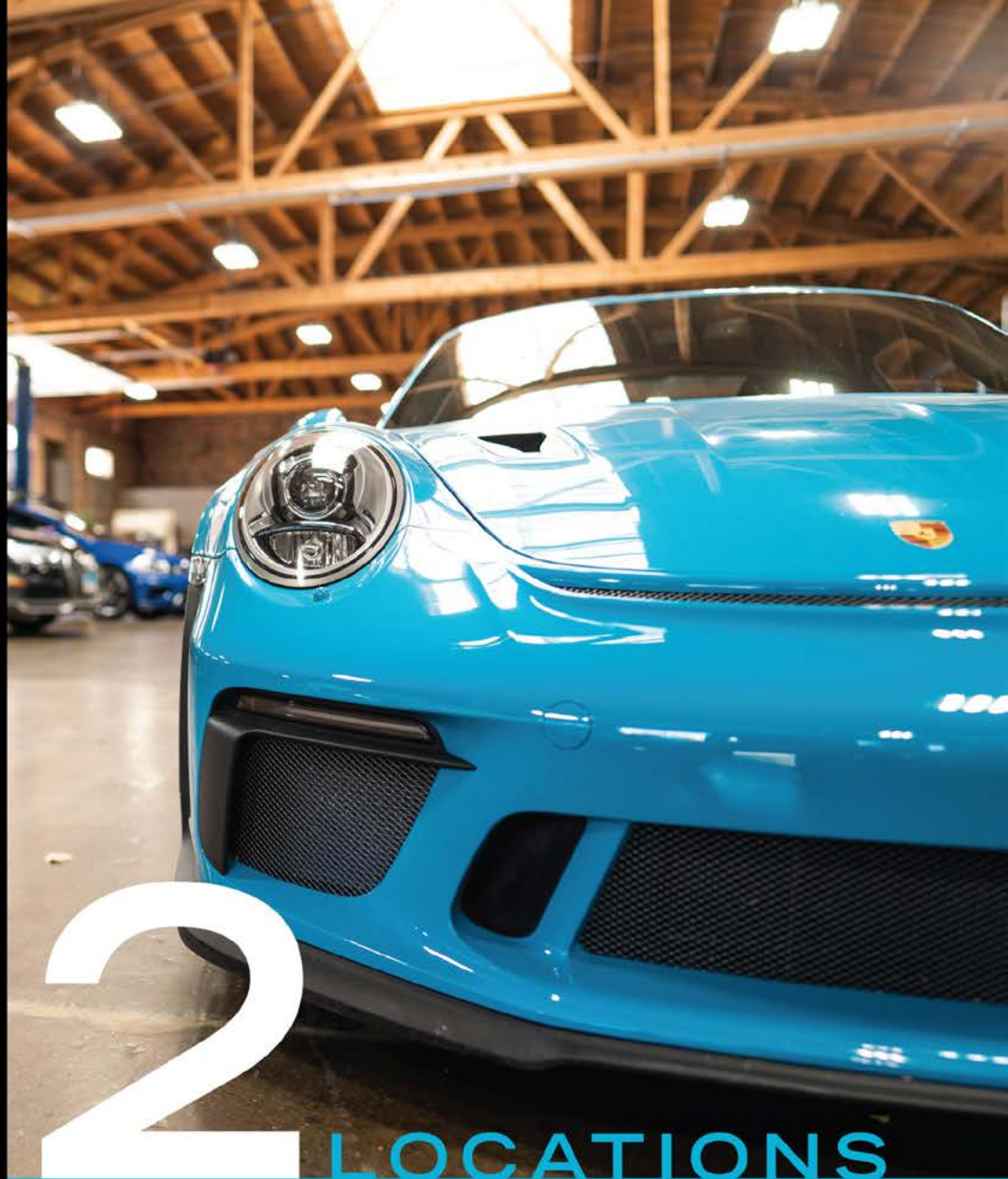
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Potter's Picnic, 2022: Home at Last!

by Corey Shaffer



As I sat before my keyboard a few weeks ago, preparing to write this article, I realized that even though my wife Heather and I have been Porsche owners and PCA members since 2016, I'd only attended two Porsche-centric events ever, prior to this year: the Sportscar Together Fest, held in Indianapolis in 2021, and the CheckedItOut Convergence, held that same year in Chicago's West Loop area. After a great day in Chicago and a call with the folks at PCA-National last year, Heather and I decided that our home Club region, going forward, would be PCA-Chicago, our "home in spirit" region!

With the advent of this year's driving season came our first-ever PCA-Chicago events: Concours 1, held at the Promenade in Bolingbrook (featured elsewhere in this issue); and Potter's Picnic, a PCA-C event held annually by the Fischer family in Grayslake, IL, which we attended as a family, kids and all! To minimize the Illinois-Indiana weekend traffic snarl, we decided to drive up Friday evening. This turned out



continued



photo: Neil MacDonald

Potter's Picnic, 2022: Home at Last! continued

photo: Neill MacDonald



to be a great idea, since we were fresh and ready on Saturday morning when we arrived in our Chiffon 1981 911SC. We were met by the sweet sounds of flat four and flat six engines, and the sight of dozens of Concoeurs competitors, some of whom were feverishly cleaning their cars in preparation of the upcoming event. Heather and I knew

at that moment, without a doubt, that all four of us would have a wonderful time!

Potter's Picnic is part summer party and part Concoeurs "show car" event, mixed with a family gathering, a lawn party, a live band, and kid-centric lawn games.



photo: Michael Bene

The day was also filled with great German food and beverages, a barbeque, and a live band.

And for the competitors among us? The Club's second Concoeurs event of the 2022 season ranged from brand new 992s to a magnificent 1955 Speedster, which I had the pleasure to help push-start at the end of the day, thanks to a bad starter. And even though I love my own cars (I wouldn't own them if I didn't!), it's also always fun to "pick your favorite" alternates out there. While I can never decide on a single favorite, a couple of them still stand out: a flachbau 930, a stunningly original 914/6, and an SWB 911 with just the right touches of personalization. For her part, Heather was drawn to a black 911 with a Bordeaux leather interior; my 17-year-old daughter gravitated towards an elegant black 356; and my 13-year-old son was keen on a Miami Blue 991 GT3.

continued on page 22



photo: Michael Bene



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Potter's Picnic, 2022: Home at Last! continued

photo: Michael Bene



photo: Neil MacDonald



photo: Michael Bene



As the day progressed, we filled ourselves with rich German food, listened to great live music, and I might (or might not) have sipped occasionally on a delicious German beer. The weather was perfect, the atmosphere and spirit were perfect, and Potter's Picnic was the perfect "welcome home" event for four new members of the Chicago Region.

And so, from the Shaffer family to you and your families, we'd like to thank our fellow PCA-Chicago members and families for your hospitality, your sense of adventure, and your enjoyment of a lovely day in the company of friends. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event soon, and in the meantime, just remember: it's not just the cars, it's the people! 🍷

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AX 3: The Stars Were Aligned

by Pete Bukantis

Pulling up to the line, you point the nose of your car slightly to the left in anticipation of that first, hard-right corner down track, pause, focus, and ... "GO!" The starter releases you, the engine growls, and you're off. A quick left/right combo brings you to that 90-degree right, and then another left/right set of gates brings you to a four-cone slalom. The fastest option here is to enter on the right and leave on the left, then continue smoothly on toward a hard right, staying wide to set up for the next gate. Hard on the binders here, followed by a sharp 180-degree right to enter the skid pad counterclockwise. Hard on the gas, the next five gates force you out wide. More heavy braking ahead, another tight 180 right to exit the skid pad, and then accelerate out to the next gate. A sweeping right turn into another gate, then a quick right-left through the final gate and a very short run to the stop box. If you're skilled, lucky, and on your game, all of that work will reward you with a blazing, low- to mid-forties second run.

Autocross 3 for the 2022 season took place on July 8, at one of our favorite venues: the fabulous Tire Rack in South Bend, Indiana. What's more, the stars were perfectly aligned that day: clear skies, light breezes, and temperatures in the low 80s. Unlike the weather, though, the competition was red hot, with three drivers coming up

equal to date for year-end points: Noel Selewa, Bill "The Reaper" Fitzsimmons, and David Bowers. At the end of the day, each one had scored first in his respective class, and therefore they remained tied in overall points for season awards.

The course was very fast, with squealing tires and revving engines as the soundtrack. Swerving cars likewise made for exciting viewing, but more than a few drivers lost their rear grip in an effort to maximize car rotation as they progressed around



continued



the skid pad section. The quickest drivers made it look easy—it wasn't—but everyone faced the same challenge: how to deal with the surprisingly slippery track surface.

This midseason event was a lot of fun but we're now just winding up a two-month AX hiatus since July, the result of limited venue availability in this crowded, ebb and flow COVID environment. By the time you read this, though, things will be picking up again: AX 4, on September 17, at WinTrust Field (a/k/a/ Boomer's); and AX 5, on October 1, also at Wintrust Field.

Won't you please join us for the last two events to show off your driving moves? You are invited; see you there! 🍷



Suspicion

by Katherine Darnstadt

If I were a suspicious person, I might have thought that my husband Nico's 2018 weekend trip to California to buy a 911 Carrera S was just a cover story, since he hadn't owned a car in over a decade. I might also have suspected that his post-purchase, late night Concours prep sessions and weekend drives were cover for a not-so-secret girlfriend. I also wondered whether Nico's constant talk about Porsches and his sudden desire to buy car things was really our friend Dan's fault. (As it turns out, I was right about that part.)

Over time, I'd heard enough pre-purchase Porsche talk between them that when I was finally ready to consider trading my beloved Lexus GX470, I test drove the comparably-sized Cayenne and the sportier Macan. At the outset, I didn't like either of them because there were just too many buttons; the info interface screen was small; and the rear storage area was likewise too small to hold my work- and project-related stuff. Accordingly, I went to a nearby BMW dealer, and what did I find? Only one button, a large info screen, and run-flat tires, perfect for an aggressive city driver like myself. While mentally ready to buy an X3, I nevertheless left my online notifications up and open for a possible Macan in my future. In response, a small army of PCA-C members went hunting to make sure there would be a Porsche in the contest.

As time slipped into February 2020 (02/2020: such a nice round number and the start of a fresh decade), Nico, Dan, and other PCA-C friends announced plans to travel to Das Renn Treffen in Miami to—you guessed it—look at some more Porsches. After informing me that he really did intend to leave town over my birthday weekend, I responded that I might just adopt a dog and buy a car if left unsupervised. And sure enough, that Saturday my son and I picked up a brown, skinny, poorly-trained Humane Society mutt we named Jolene. And later that same day, my "Porsche search" Google alert went off.

If my husband were a suspicious person, he might have thought my 2020 Valentine's Day weekend trip to Connecticut to buy a 2017 Macan GTS was just a cover story! But over the course of the following week, I was also able to put down a deposit, get a pre-purchase inspection, confirm in writing that the dealership would fix any known issues, and book a one-way flight.

The Macan itself? Sapphire blue metallic, a "keep it conspicuous" kind of car with 21" rims and window tint that's borderline legal here in Illinois. And once I learned what all the buttons were for on my Macan, it made my scenic drive through the Berkshires much more fun: you couldn't see me smiling behind the tint! 🍷

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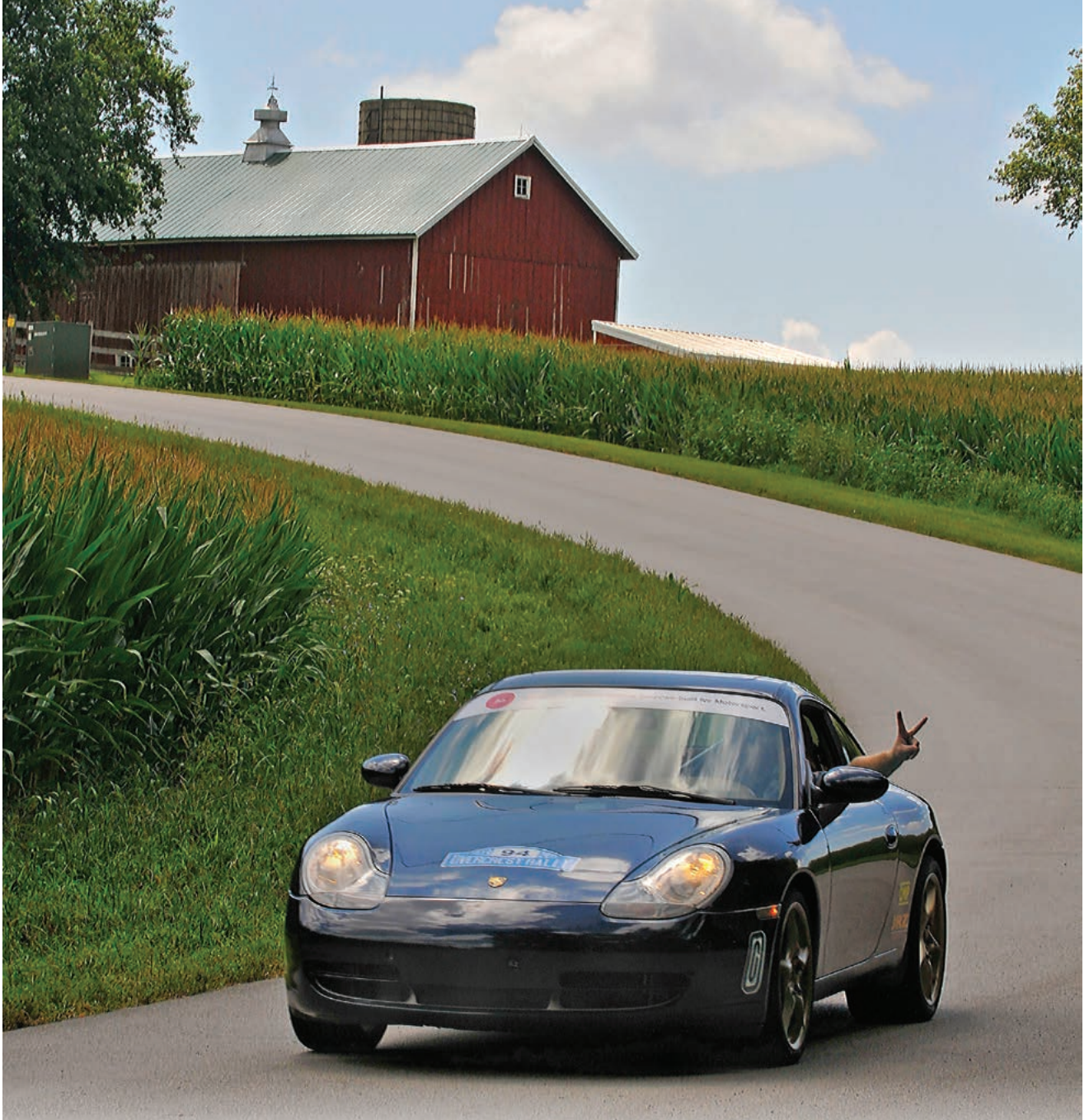


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Sharing Rallye 3

by Chris Costis



I've always thought that the only way to truly enjoy an experience is to share it with those close to you. Whether it's cooking a meal for your loved ones, watching a favorite movie with close friends, or giving a fellow enthusiast a ride in your Porsche this is what inspired me to organize a Rallye. Many of us have our favorite driving road for a mind-clearing evening drive, where the howl of our flat sixes can drown out the frustrations of daily life. I mean, how hard could it be to write a Rallye?

continued



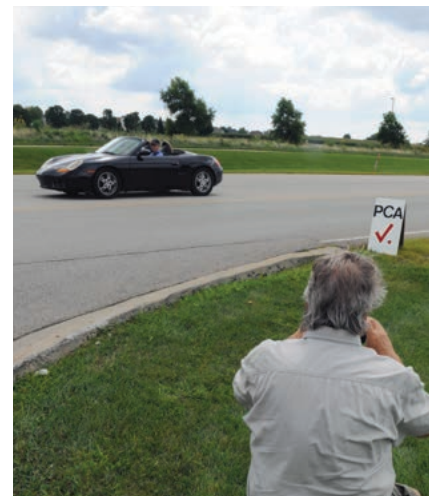
The first step was to determine a route. Simple, yes? Just link together your favorite driving roads while being sure to avoid traffic, boring stretches, speed traps, stop signs, traffic lights, neighborhoods, rough roads, rough railroad crossings. . . Ok, maybe not quite so simple. Eventually, a route emerged, but we still had to figure out how to create instructions that were sufficiently clear to keep participants from getting lost, while providing navigators with enough challenges to keep the teams engaged. Let's add a spelling mistake here, a last-second decision there. This is where you learn the devious depths you're capable of. Are you wicked and like to include tricky traps? A just, fair, and upright Rallye master who will grace your colleagues with a simple Sunday drive? Something else?

With great power comes great responsibility, as they say! Every detail needs to be evaluated before publishing a Rallye. How many traffic lights will each team encounter? Will they have the typical green, yellow, and red lights, or just a single flashing red? Is "Parkway" shortened to "PKWY" or "PRKY"? Will teams need to "bear right", "turn ON right", "turn ONTO a right", "turn right", or just "turn"? This madness continues until the day of the Rallye itself, when carefully crafted Rallye



directions are propelling participants across the McHenry County countryside. All you can do is wait at the restaurant for all of them (hopefully) to arrive. The tension finally eases when you hear the applause and appreciation of the teams that traversed those same roads, made the same mistakes, and had the same fun as you did when you created your Rallye route in the first place.

See you at the next one! 🍷





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The SOCIAL SCENE

by Michael Bene



Superdawg Ice Cream Social

The Superdawg Ice Cream Social was the first PCA event that I attended as a new Porsche owner, ‘way back in the summer of 2018. After joining the Club that spring, I was a bit lost at what to do next. There were lots of options, but this being my first car with real teeth, I didn’t know which direction to take it. The social seemed like the best way to check out cars, meet some fellow members, and start to learn more about what the Club has to offer. The ice cream part was the proverbial “cherry on top;” they had me hooked.

PCA-Chicago has been holding the ice cream social at Superdawg in Wheeling for about six years. It was first organized by then-current Social Coordinator Steve Kuk at the suggestion of Barbara and Tom Stark, who had attended other car events there. Since then, Superdawg has been a great partner to the Club: always welcoming, accommodating, and the venue provides a superb environment for our P-Cars to gather. After all, it seems like drive-ins and sports cars are a marriage that go back as far as sports cars have existed.

Rebecca and I have continued to attend the Superdawg event every year since joining. Even though we’ve started participating in a much wider variety of Club

continued





events, it's a great, low-key environment to take a break halfway through the driving season and meet fellow members, both new and old. We've been blessed with good weather, even this year, when the forecast had threatened rain. Not to mention, it's a great backdrop to take photos. And the event attendance? It grows every year, so it's the place to be on a warm August afternoon.

...The 50% discount on ice cream doesn't hurt either. Be sure to get this on your calendar for next year. 🍌

2022 EVENT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 2-5** TRAC, Road America
- 3** Concours 3, Elkhart Lake, WI
- 7** Board Meeting
- 11** Rallye 4, West Aurora Plaza
- 14-18** Treffen Bend, Sunriver Resort
- 17** AX 4, Boomers
- 18** Show & Shine / P&P Picnic, Long Grove
- 24-25** Oktoberfiesta, Blackhawk

OCTOBER

- 1** AX 5, Boomers
- 5** Board Meeting
- 9** Rallye 5
- 14-16** Fall Driving Tour
- 17** Autobahn Full Track
- 30** Porsches & Pastries & Packing, Engineering Systems Inc.

NOVEMBER

- 2** Board Meeting

Event details are subject to change and several dates and venues have not yet been confirmed. Please refer to the Club's website for updated information:

<https://pca-chicago.org/event-schedule/>



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A Blackhawk “Two-fer”...

by Pete Bukantis



two days of fun on the track, there's also a fabulous catered meal on Saturday (hosted again this year by Little Mexico Restaurant) and extra time at the track to wind down the days' events with friends. But wait!

What's better than two for Tuesday? For starters, how about a Blackhawk Farms DE event on a Tuesday? That's what happened on July 12, a rare middle-of-the-week event right after the 4th of July holiday. It was also the last novice-oriented event of this year's driving season, so attendance was even higher than expected, and the great weather added to the draw. Clear skies and open track made for a wonderful way to break up the work week.

But here's the “two-fer” part: how would you like to enjoy two more track days at Blackhawk this year? Well, here's the answer: on Sept 24 and 25, we're hosting a two day track event season wind-up at Blackhawk Farms. *Oktoberfiesta* is what we call our little twist on our driving and social event. Besides

There's more: our BFR Driving Event sponsor, The Exchange, will be providing lunch. Finally, there will be a special year-end giveaway for event participants. What's not to like? Nada, so we encourage you and your family to fiesta with us for the whole weekend.

We'll plan to see you there, so please check our website (<https://pca-chicago.org/>) for all the latest details. 🍷



photo: Neill MacDonald

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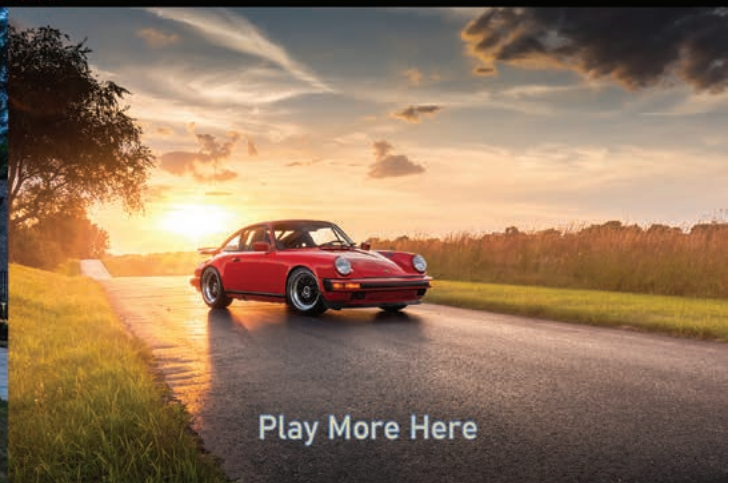
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- 8-10 Nordfest, Regional Event in Minneapolis, MN
- 17 VinFest at Rookies, St Charles, IL
- 18 Autocross 5, Sun, Wintrust Field, Schaumburg, IL

OCTOBER.....

- 9 Autocross 6, Sun, Wintrust Field, Schaumburg, IL

2023

JANUARY.....

- 14 Annual Dinner, Two Brothers

JUNE.....

- 3-4 30th Yokohama/Tire Rack/ Windy City BMW Challenge South Bend, IN



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PCA-Chicago's First SUV and Sports Car Track Day Event

by Dana Comolli



“Well, that was fun...”

For those of you that don't know me, I'm a pretty hardcore DE guy; I drive a 991 GT3 Cup and attend >10 events per summer.

What I am referring to is our event at Autobahn's north track where, for the first time ever, we had run groups that were open to Porsche SUVs. I drove my Cayenne GTS and it was a blast.

When we conceived of this event, we wanted to design something that would appeal to a different audience than our typical DE event. PCA-Chicago does not allow SUVs and sports cars to mix in the same run group for safety (think visibility) reasons. And since we'd never had SUVs on the track before, there were sure to be novice drivers. We settled on an event format with two SUV run groups and two sports car run groups, with the classroom and instructors focused on the novice SUV drivers.

We then approached our friends at The Porsche

continued



“

The result was a track day event that was nearly fifty percent SUVs, [and] had more female participants than we have ever seen at a DE event...

”

SUV and Sports Car Track Day Event *continued*

photo: Neil MacDonald



Exchange to see if they were interested in being part of the event. To say they were would be putting in mildly. The Exchange supported the event by providing a continental breakfast and an over-the-top lunch, as well as a goodie bag. In addition, their service department offered an incredible deal for the tech inspection/brake flush for those attending with an SUV.

The result was a track day event that was nearly fifty percent SUVs, had more female participants than we have



photo: Neil MacDonald



ever seen at a DE event, and where everyone had a safe and fun-filled day. Attendees really loved the low-key nature of the event, the wonderful facilities at Autobahn, and

everyone wanted us to do it again. Novices even got a tour of Autobahn's race control center at the top of the north tower.

You heard it here first. We will be doing it again next year. Same time, same place. Mark July 28, 2023 on your calendars now. 🍷

photo: Neil MacDonald



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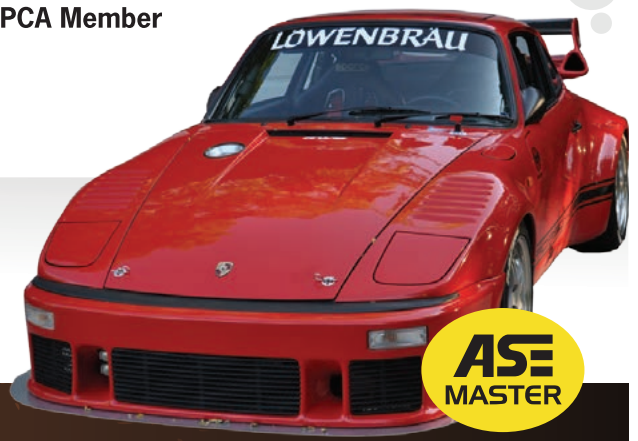
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Road America

by Chuck LaMantia

... I really enjoy my time at the track! Yes, there is a lot of pre-work that goes into the event by the Chicago Region Road America team. Once at the track, though, it is so nice to spend time with people who have become like family to me.

...Early on, I used to participate in the RA events, including Club Racing back in 2005-2009...but now it is so much more relaxing to just watch and help make things happen. Talking and visiting with all the attendees, giving tours of race control and some of the track

corners is a great way to expose others to the complexities and the simplicities of running such an event.

... So why, you're wondering, is Chuck writing this article?... I really wanted to make sure that all of you who have never attended an RA event (especially on Labor Day), be sure to give us a try!!

Yes, there is a lot happening at the track. A ton of cool cars and two tons of great people! But there are lots of other activities to balance family time away from the track, with great people and activities at

the track! Those who want to spend their time at the track should feel no guilt and those who want to spend time away from the track should do the same. They're all part of the same great Club weekend experience, and you owe it to yourself and your family and friends to be a part of it all.

We are a car club, but that's far from all we are. However great these cars may be, they are all owned by some truly fantastic people. And that, my friends, is the part I enjoy the most!... 🍷



Part of the Road America team all cleaned up (Not at RA!)
l to r: Keith Clark, myself, Todd Conforti and Toby Duckett.



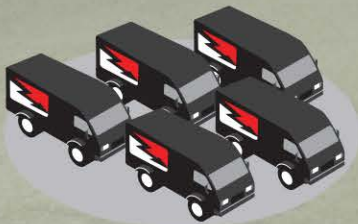
And of course... the best thing I ever did in Wisconsin... the Bride and Groom.
(wedding photos by Elliot Mann Photography)

Road America entrance photo by Jeff Brown

¹ Chuck LaMantia served as President of PCA-Chicago from 2006 through 2007, and again from 2016 through 2017. Over the years, Chuck also served variously as the Club's Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, Immediate Past President, and was a long-time Board Member. Chuck retired from active Club service as a co-Chair of PCA-Chicago's Road America events (both RADE and TRAC) at the close of the 2020 season. For an account of Chuck's first year as a TRAC driver, please see My First Year, at <https://pca-chicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/SceneNov02.pdf>, page 12.



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