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# THE CHICAGO SCENE

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## Fun at Any Speed

The other day I finally took my old mountain bike out for a ride for the first time in over a year. After having ridden so many miles on a speedy road bike, getting back on the much heavier (hence slower) mountain bike took some getting used to. But the mountain bike is an old, trusted friend that takes me places its lighter and faster counterpart simply can't. As I was leisurely pedaling along, it suddenly struck me how much more fun it was to mosey along, enjoying the superb ride of the mountain bike and the scenery around me. I wasn't focused on how far or how fast I could go; it was all about enjoying the moment.



All of the Porsches I've driven have given me that same centered feeling. Sure, going fast (on a track or during an autocross, of course!) is exhilarating, but often the best time can be had by taking a long drive on a country back road at speeds prescribed by law. Many of the cars I've driven make this type of tour somewhat tedious, but not a Porsche. The engagement one gets from the feel of the road—perfectly transmitted through the car to your body—makes for an addicting experience. The sound of the engine just breaking through the rush of wind and constant rumble of road noise makes for a symphony that relaxes the soul. An approaching curve or hill crest builds anticipation for what's beyond, as your Porsche calmly handles any change in the road that lies ahead.

This type of drive is the perfect antidote to the fast paced, traffic congested world we live in today, and your Porsche is the perfect vehicle to deliver it to you. Having a destination isn't as important as the drive itself, and sometimes it's best not to have one, giving you even more reason to take your time and just enjoy the car.

While the name Porsche may be synonymous with racing, this manufacturer has accomplished much in refining a race winning car into a daily driver that can be enjoyed in any surrounding. The Great Drives page on PCA-Chicago's website is the perfect place to start if you're looking to capture this experience or share your own.<sup>1</sup>

Stanley Sangdahl  
President, Chicago Region

“  
...often the best time can be had by taking a long drive on a country back road at speeds prescribed by law.  
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<sup>1</sup> <https://pca-chicago.org/great-drives/>.

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# TRAC 2.0

by Cheryl Lehman Collier



The penultimate event of the Chicago Region's 2022 track driving season, The Road America Challenge ("TRAC"), took place over Labor Day weekend, with an array of activities for the entire family. As is customary, there were four days of on-track driving for both HPDE drivers and Club Racers; a Porsche parade into downtown Elkhart Lake that included an historical driving tour (and how!) of the public roads used for racing before the Road America track was built; a Concours car show; a delicious banquet under the tents at Siebkens Resort; and two opportunities to participate in our charity track touring laps.

This year marked some new traditions, as well. The 16-car Concours moved over to the west lawn of The Osthoff Resort to take advantage of a beautiful, lakeside venue that included a PCA Juniors judging event, with assistance from the lovely ladies of SparkShop, our 2022 charity. There was also a



continued



popular bingo and scavenger hunt for the kids at the track. It was great to see so many children (and even some teens) looking around for the items on their brightly colored game cards. In this regard, I felt like a rock star when contestants approached me for my signature, which was one of the items on their scavenger list.

Except for a brief shower over lunch on Friday, the weekend brought very mild weather, which everyone (including the cars) enjoyed immensely. On-track participants and racers drove well and safely, as evidenced by the very low number of track incidents that took place. PCA-National's Club Race management team, drawn from across the country, was similarly an absolute delight to work with, and very inclusive of our regional volunteers. This event takes a village to stage, as you can well imagine, but our Club has the absolutely best volunteers. I'm so appreciative



of everyone who came out to help with registration, car gridding, race control timing and scoring, track touring, and so much more. As a result, the camaraderie among drivers, volunteers, friends, and families was in high gear throughout the event.

*continued on page 10*



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The Road America Challenge is aptly named because it provides challenges at every turn, and I don't just mean "turn of the track!" The Chicago Region's core Road America event team learned a lot from our freshman year in 2021. As a result, we adopted a number of changes that made things run much more smoothly this year. You might not have experienced a difference, but boy, we sure did!

We're looking ahead to a fabulous 2023 season. I hope you'll not only come to Wisconsin to drive, but will also bring your whole family, as there are so many activities in which to participate at the track, in town, and on the lake.

Add Road America to your "can't miss" list for 2023. See you there! 🍷

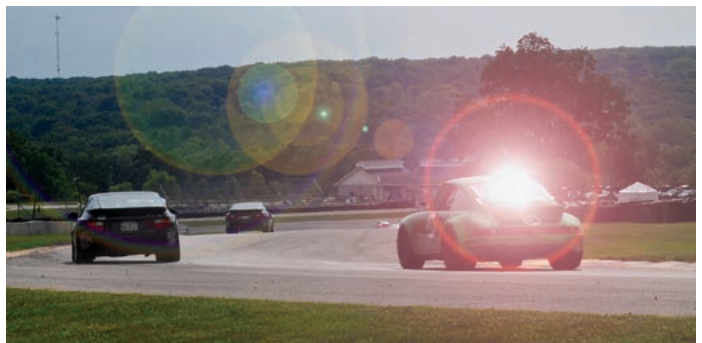


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# Octoberfiesta 2022

by Pete Bukantis

**PCA-Chicago's decades-long Oktoberfest DE event** has always been a celebration of friends, family, and driving fun. Given this orientation, Octoberfiesta 2022 was right on course: the two-day event featured eighty-five drivers, over 110 attendees, and twenty-plus hardy campers who braved the cool, damp nights on the grounds of (and on the ground at) Blackhawk Farms Raceway.<sup>1</sup>

Saturday morning's drivers were greeted with overcast skies and cool temps, but our season sponsor, The Porsche Exchange, made things far more bearable with a fashionable, P-Car emblazoned pullover hoodie.

After that, it was down to business. The track was a tad bit more than dampish for the first sessions but dried nicely throughout the rest of the day. Lunchtime on both days featured touring sessions for SparkShop, our 2022 charity of the year. Accordingly, a hearty thank you goes out to all the generous donors who participated.

After the driving part of the day was done, the fiesta began. First up was the margarita bar, with mariachi music outside, where "Pedro" Hackenson was there to welcome all of our weekend party goers. After chilling out for a bit, we moved into the dining area for the fiesta portion of the event, hosted again this year by Little Mexico of Beloit. And after all the grazing was completed? Naturally, we headed outside to the big bonfire to discuss the happenings of the day.



*continued*



photo: Neil MacDonald

<sup>1</sup> For the story of the Oktoberfest-to-Octoberfiesta transition, please see pages 40 and 41 of the November 2021 issue of *The Chicago Scene*, found here: <https://pca-chicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/SceneNov21.pdf>.



photo: Neil MacDonald

Absent the fiesta, Sunday was more of the same: the weather remained overcast until the last cars left the track: within minutes, the clouds cleared and the temperatures rose into the '70s. This must have been the DE gods' way of acknowledging a successful event.

It was great to be able to celebrate our 53rd season at BFR and our Club's 65th anniversary. Thanks to all the cast that makes it happen: Todd and "Pedro" for organizing the season; Helga, Pete

Bukantis, and JP for making sure registration went smoothly; Jody, Glenn, John, Cliff and crew, who make sure the cars and equipment were all tight and ship-shape; John, Darcy, and our Track Control crew; and Jeff and Neil, two of the Club's growing list of favorite photographers. These are the folks who make this event possible for all. Be sure to tell them "thanks" the next time you see them! 🍷



photo: Neil MacDonald



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# Away Games: Gingerman, Blackhawk, and Beyond

by Krys & Tracy Rootham



from l to r: Sabrina Distel, Tammy Druck, Ed Druck, Bill Distel, Krys Rootham, and Tracy Rootham

**It really is the people**, and all because a few Porsche car owners, back in the day, were having so much fun with their cars that they just started hanging around together.

For us, it started with an Autocross school, but it evolved into an ongoing, multi-family series of rolling adventures. At first, we'd drive to the events in our competition cars, taking along only the bare essentials: helmets, chairs, tire pressure gauges, etc., and just laughing and chilling together in the parking lot afterwards. Over time, trailers and tow vehicles began to appear. For those early multi-day events, most of us camped out in a covered trailer here, in the back of a tow vehicle there, or pitching a tent in a nearby grove of trees, enduring everything from freezing temperatures,



photo: Krys Rootham



photo: Krys Rootham

rain, to sweltering heat. As time passed, our spouses joined in, increasing the social aspect to our outings. Several members of our group also began to volunteer as driving instructing, thus returning to the Club the support and guidance we all received when we first started.

By this point, all of us were well down the slippery slope. Not sure exactly how it happened, but at some point, we began to acquire substantial



homes. This year even included a trip to cheer on the winner (one of the wives in our group) at the drag strip in Earlville, Iowa!

Who would have thought that our first Porsches and memberships in PCA-Chicago would have resulted in sharing such fabulous adventures with lifelong friends. Though the temperatures have begun to edge downward, next year's driving season isn't far away, so now's the

time to start planning next year's events.

We hope to see you out there. 🍷

support vehicles (open and closed trailers), and an occasional RV to support our multi-day ventures, along with tools, track tires, cooking implements, and ever evolving performance equipment. Over the years, other families joined the group, welcoming our students or anyone else who might stop by to join us at the track for morning coffee and bagels, lunch, or post-event libations.

Our friendships extend well beyond local Club events. Over the course of a season, our group regularly spends weekends at a variety of venues: Gingerman, Blackhawk Farms, and Road America (not only as drivers, but also spectators at the late-summer IMSA event), while welcoming in the progression of seasonal temperature changes that accompany the seasonal weather changes. Our roster includes Chicago HPDE events, driving tours, and social events at each others'



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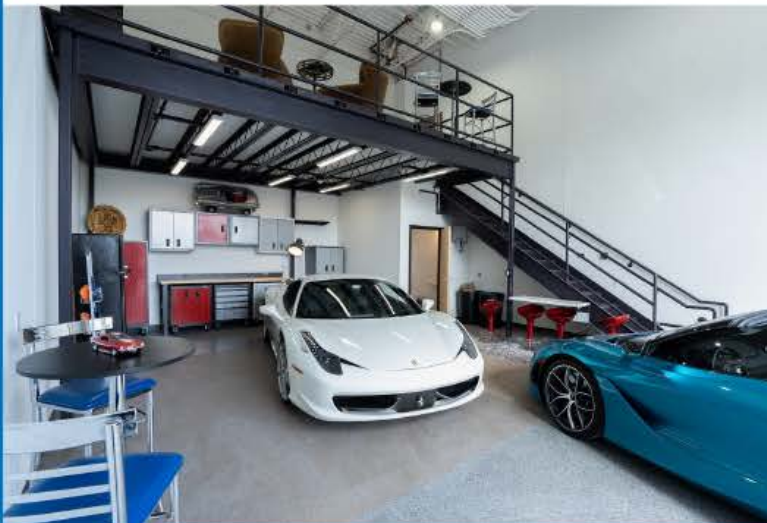
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# Gingerman: Trackside Near the Shore

*by Krays & Tracy Rootham,  
and Neil French*



The weekend at Gingerman Raceway, in South Haven, MI, was a great event as usual, thanks to the combined efforts of Neil French, Glenn DeWeirdt, Mark Palmer (“Mr. Macan”), and Jody Freund, our Club’s Tech Team squad leader.

The event continued with its well established tradition of track-side camping, enjoyed by those looking for the full air-cooled weekend experience! Camp accommodations varied from lightweight tents (easily stowed in the “frunk” of a 911) to car trailers (to accommodate 911s), and all the way to full RVs that would rival the finest accommodations in lakeside South Haven.

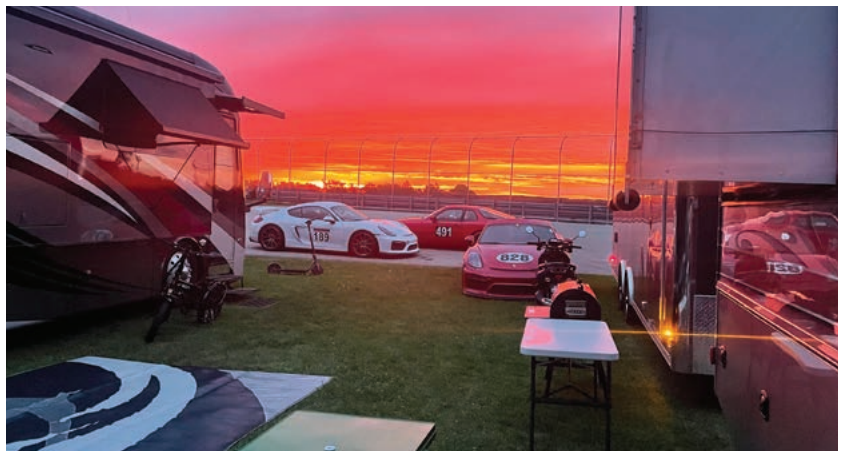


photo: Krays Rootham



The first session on Saturday started out with a damp track, which always makes the first few laps interesting, particularly because most of us only run at Gingerman once a year and need to re-familiarize ourselves with the track layout and driving lines. The run groups were sorted by experience level, thereby permitting drivers to move up, as appropriate, into more experienced groups as the event progressed. Drivers thereby gained familiarity with the track, and the instructors gained sufficient confidence that their students were sufficiently experienced to warrant a solo driver sign-off.

*continued*



By popular demand, a track walk was also organized for Saturday evening, after the day's driving session. The track walk allowed participants to see, first-hand, and up close and personal, the surprising variations in elevation, camber, and track surface as participants traversed the track at speed. This little exercise certainly added to the overall DE learning experience, with the added benefit of materially improving one's lap times. It should also be noted that camaraderie and team spirit were not dampened by the light evening rain, as discussions on the optimal racing line and braking points continued all the way through the final session's final straight!



This year's Gingerman DE event saw the return of our Sunday morning, SUV-only, lead-follow sessions mandated by the village to ensure low decibel levels for the comfort of the township's residents. These sessions are also always fun to watch, including the participants' inevitable post-session smiles and laughter.

For those of us who instruct, it's very rewarding to see our students' progress during each session, and for everyone to be able to drive their cars—and SUVs—as they were intended and engineered to be driven.

See you next year! 🍷

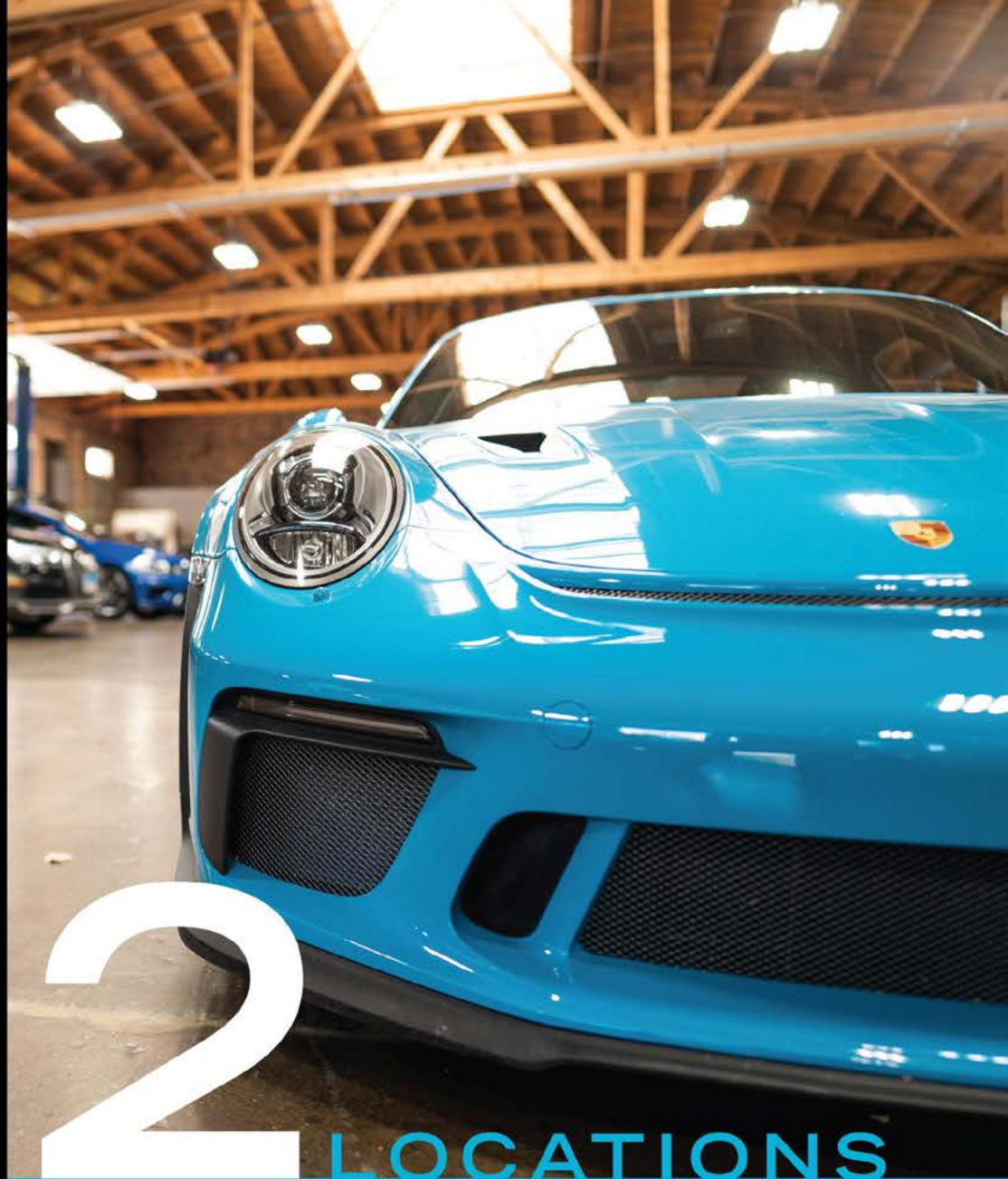




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# New? Better? BOTH!

by Dominique (Nicki) Sangdahl

I suppose one of the things we learn as we get older is that we need to adapt to change. I've had to say goodbye to some precious lotions and potions over the years for "new," "better," and of course, "more expensive" varieties. My favorite brand of jeans disappeared years ago. I therefore covet the two pairs I still have in my closet!

So, when the "NEW" and "BETTER" Richta Rallye App appeared in 2020, I was (of course) dubious about the idea of using an application for Rallying. Stanley, however, who is more tech-adventurous than me, jumped in feet first. We volunteered to be Rallye Masters in 2021 using the app and said good-bye to physical checkpoints as well as to the many (but increasingly scarce number of) volunteers who have helped us in the past. We attended the "How To"

*continued*





Zoom meeting and learned a lot by trial and error. The app was new not just to us, but also to its creator, and there were unsurprisingly some glitches along the way. In the end, everyone who registered had a good time, and we high-fived ourselves for our achievement. But (at least on my end) there was still so much to learn.

Fast forward to 2022. Once again we are Rallye Masters, but armed with more knowledge and experience this time. Stanley is now proficient at setting the Rallye up on the app using Google Maps. We discuss different ways to enter Off Course check points, etc. We are excited at the many possibilities open to us, limited only by our creative juices.

On the day of Rallye 4 I was ready and excited. Even the rain didn't diminish

*continued on page 16*



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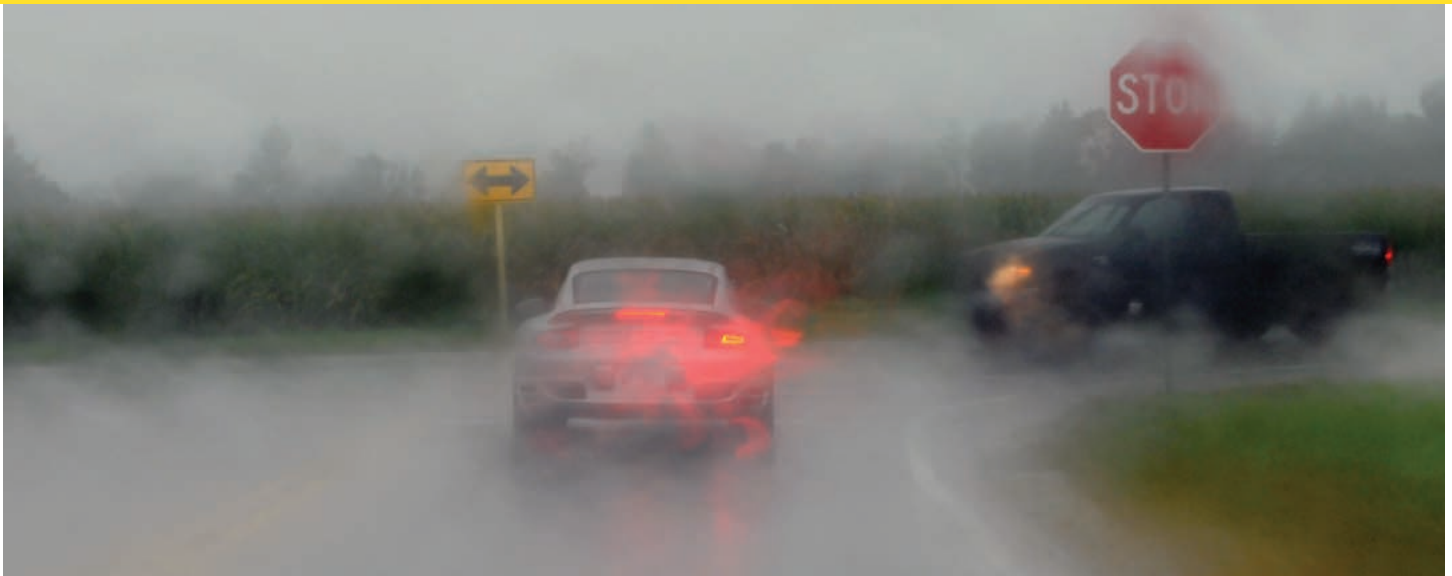
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my enthusiasm. And—hey—at least there were no checkpoint volunteers soaked to the bone to worry about! My role was to watch the participants' cars on my iPad and make sure everyone was "on course," and to let Stanley know if any teams were deviating. As I am somewhat directionally challenged, this NEW technology made it much easier for me to assist as the Rallye progressed. In fact, it was fun! Could it be that something NEW added a little kick to this girl?!

So, I guess I've learned to remain open to the NEW and to challenge myself. Of course I'll miss some of the components of the old. But sometimes NEW will surprise you. This time it really paid off!

Please consider trying one of the Rallyes next season. Fellow Rallyists are always ready to help out, answer questions, and engage in a little friendly competition. 🍷

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JANET MARINIS  
**JM** group





photo: Rich LaMarre

# “Revvin’ & Rollin’” through a Great First Season

by Kirk Owens

**While absolutely nothing compares to owning my first Porsche, my first season in the Porsche Club of America-Chicago Region has been nothing short of amazing.**

It started long ago, with posters on my bedroom walls in the ‘80s, and two promises to myself: “If I’m ever lucky enough to own a 911”— let alone, two –“it’ll be clean when driven.” Now the proud owner of my first (and clean) 911, a 1983 SC Cabriolet that I purchased in October 2021, I’m fulfilling those promises with miles of smiles.

The first PCA-C event I attended was a Porsches & Pastries / Show & Shine, where I earned my first blue ribbon. Wanting to learn more about my car and how to care for it, I signed up for a Concours judging workshop, my first true steps into Concours. What followed were hours (and hours and hours) of detailing,



photo: Jeff Brown



asking questions of anyone who would answer, and testing numerous cleaning and car care products as I jumped into my first Concours Show Class.

I always treasure the morning’s first ride (preferably at sunrise), and this year’s first bonding opportunity between car, open road, and cool air across a flat six motor was my first full Concours, at Potter’s Picnic. And as it has been at each event, I was greeted with smiles, parking guidance, and lots of “Great seeing you again, Kirk.”

Another milestone: Labor Day weekend marked my first trip to Elkhart Lake: wow! Punched by an incredible array of German iron from ‘53 onward, my jaw hit the lawn.

*continued*



I should have picked it off the grass faster: I needed to smile for my first 1st Place Youth Judging award and a Best of Show trophy. And true to my '80s first promise (see above), I capped the day with a top down drive home.

Knowledge acquired that day? “First learn, then apply,” a guiding principle for any Concours participant. Concours event Co-Chair Henrique Regina has been wonderful in allowing me to shadow the Club’s event judges as a way to understand their thought processes and methods. And the more I’ve been involved

in Club activities this year, the more I appreciate the beauty of Dr. Porsche’s creation and the commitment required to compete successfully in Concours.

New this year to everything PCA-C, the year was a sensory overload in every sense of the phrase. Without minimizing the hours of detailing I clocked this year, my first love remains driving my SC and the privilege of enjoying more than a few “spirited miles” behind the wheel.

Many thanks to each of you for the warm welcome you gave us; may we pass it on to our successors! 🍷



photo: Jeff Brown

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## Best Dam Get-Together in 2022

by Michael Bene



photo: Jeff Brown



On Sunday, September 18, Club member and longtime Porsche enthusiast Eliot Dam hosted a PCA-Chicago Show and Shine, which was held at a bit of Long Grove real estate that's been overseen by his family for decades.

The Dam Property was originally purchased in 1945 by Eliot's grandfather, Edward Herman Wachs III ("Senior"), as a place to restore such vintage, pre-war, super cars as a 1930 supercharged Mercedes racer; various Pierce Arrow touring cars; and a Delage. Senior's restorations were undertaken not to create automotive museum pieces, but as and for drivers, i.e., personal tools for self-exploration and development. His passion and commitment in this regard similarly launched the racing career of his son, Eddie Wachs, who competed in TransAm, CanAm, and other SCCA classes. Eddie also raced LeMans and ultimately formed a driver development team with Paul Newman.

Over the years, the Dam Property has been home to several Gymkhanas and other automotive events, and remains "home" to two generations of Dams. It's also

*continued*



photo: Jeff Brown



photo: Jeff Brown

the base of operations for Roads United, LLC, Eliot's automotive event and logistics company that's focused on rallies and other show and driving events held across North America.

For PCA-C's Show and Shine, we fielded a competitive selection of cars, and now offer a hearty thanks to our participants, and congratulate the class winners, as follows:

- Group A (1960s-1980s) – 14 participants.  
Winner: Bill Pam, 1986 911 Cabriolet;
- Group B (1990s-2009) – 16 participants.  
Winner: Bob Martin, 2004 911 Carrera 4S;
- Group C (2010-2022) – 11 participants.  
Winner: Tammy Whitacre, 2014 911 Carrera S, Robb McPherson, 2018 Cayman S (TIE); and
- Group D (SUVs) – 4 participants.  
Winner: Dale Lubrano, 2022 Cayenne S.



The Porsches were looking at their finest. There were even a few great Safari builds that would have been the perfect cars to really take advantage of that large field ..., but we'll just leave it at that!

We'll likely be looking for similar opportunities in the future, so keep your eyes open! 🍷

It turned out to be a warm and beautiful day for a get together in this rural setting and there was an impressive turnout to enjoy the music, food from D&D Shack, and the camaraderie of friends.



photo: Jeff Brown



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# PORSCHE



# A Show Car Road Show

by Henrique Regina

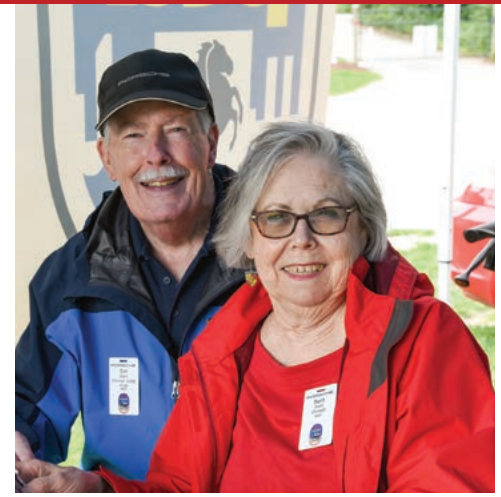
**This year's Labor Day weekend Concours in Elkhart Lake, WI**, almost didn't happen. With only a couple of weeks until the event, we were informed that the village would only permit the Club's use of the downtown area on Saturday for a total of four hours: for the Concours; the race car parade from Road America into town; and the Saturday evening promenade and outdoor dinner event at Siebkens. After some quick deliberation, Concours judge and former Club Social Director Steve Kuk initiated a series of phone calls, the result of

which was that Osthoff Resort General Manager John Steffes offered us the use of the Osthoff's splendid lakefront lawn area for our Concours, which saved the day for our event! To John and his staff: you have the Club's sincere thanks for your quick and generous response. And to our fellow PCA-C members, the new location was so good that we've already booked the lawn area at the Osthoff for the 2023 event!

*continued*



Several Wisconsin area PCA members also participated, including the owner of a beautifully-restored 1953 Porsche 356 Coupe (center).



Thanks to all who participated in and supported the Club's Concours and Show and Shine events this year. We'd also like to express our thanks to Barb Mashburn and Jim Dorfman for their first year working the show car registration desks, both at Road America and in Long Grove (featured elsewhere in this issue). We've been blessed with great weather at this year's show car venues, even when the forecast has threatened rain. Not to mention, Elkhart Lake, Long Grove, and our other show car venues provide great backdrops for photos, as you can see from *The Scene's* ongoing coverage of these gatherings.

Great job, everyone! Put these events on your calendars for next year, and we'll see you next spring at the 2023 show car opener! 🍷



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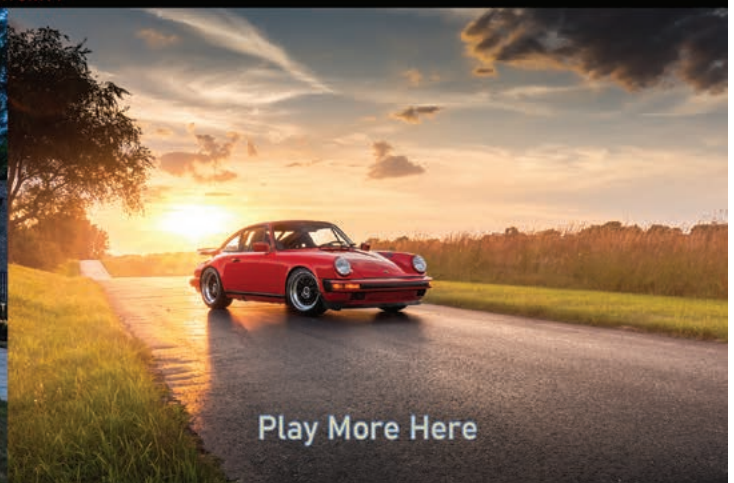
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## Rallye V: Don't Be The White Rabbit

by Steve Rashbaum



**Rallye V was the fall event that closed this year's Rallye season.**

We requested and received peak color and a cool, sunny day. The weather gods were in favor of the Rallye.

Susan (and I) decided to write a different (for us) type of Rallye. No navigational tricks, no traps, just be on time. The instructions were straightforward enough to not have any touring instructions. Be literal. Once we settled on this format, we opted to make staying on time challenging. So, off to Wisconsin we went; Moraine, here we come.

*continued*



# Rallye V: Don't Be The White Rabbit continued



So, given the variables of the roads and the Wisconsin signage, the Rallye was challenging for teams to keep on time.

Just as the Rallye masters wished.

The end of the Rallye brought smiles and kudos for the Rallye itself. Which is not to say that the event didn't bring out the normal amount of post-event, good-natured discussion.

For those who attended, a day of fun and comradery. For those who did not, they missed a great day. 🍷



We began near Delafield and traveled north through the hills and curves of the countryside. There were no stop lights along the Rallye route, and few stop signs. Much to the delight of any Porsche driver, however, there were curves. Lots of curves, some gentle, some more extreme, and a few were off-camber, decreasing radius. Unfortunately, observing speed limits was mandatory and the narrow roads were two way.

While the Rallye had no navigational traps, it would have been a mistake to conclude that the navigator could nap the entire Rallye. Not quite. This was Wisconsin, after all. Large signs, small signs, and very few roads were pre-marked. Some were partly obscured by the beautiful Fall foliage, some were askew.



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**Valuation Expert Dave Kinney to speak to Midwest 356 Club  
November 12, 2022**



Dave Kinney, Publisher of the Hagerty Price Guide, will speak at the Midwest 356 breakfast on November 12<sup>th</sup>. The Hagerty Price Guide was founded in 2006 by Dave originally as Cars that Matter and includes valuation for more than 40,000 collector cars, trucks, vans, and motorcycles from pre-war to modern classics. This highly recognized valuation tool is the standard for classic and collectible automobiles. In addition, we will have Alex Vigh, Senior Market Development Manager of the Midwest with us. He will be discussing the importance of valuation and Hagerty. Alex oversees and leads Hagerty's local Territory Managers in the Midwest. The presentation will be held at Cantigny Golf, 27W270 Mack Road, Wheaton, IL 60189. Tickets are \$25 each and must be purchased in advance. Doors open at 8:00AM. A complete breakfast buffet is included in the price. Attendance will be limited to the first 50 attendees registered by November 1<sup>st</sup> at 11PM CT. To complete the advance registration for \$25, please visit the Midwest 356 Club website at: [www.midwest356.org](http://www.midwest356.org)

## NOVEMBER

- 2 Board Meeting
- 13 Fall Tech Session, Midwest Performance Cars - Northbrook

## DECEMBER

- 10 Annual Awards & Dinner Dance Gala

## JANUARY

- 15 General Membership Meeting, Onion Pub & Brewery

## FEBRUARY

- 18 St. Valentine's Lunch, Cooper's Hawk - Arlington Heights

## APRIL

- 16 Spring Tech Session, Northstar Motorsports



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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DECEMBER 11 Annual Dinner

JANUARY 16 Ice Gymkhana

JULY 18 - 21, 1972 13th Porsche Parade

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JANUARY EVENT: KALTFEST '72

DATE: Sunday, January 16, 1972  
 TIME: Reg.: 10:30 A.M. -- Start: 11:00 A.M.  
 PLACE: Sterlingworth Motor Inn, 6 miles north of Elkhorn, Wisc., on Highway 12

Maybe a Porsche driver can't walk on water, but he or she will have the opportunity to drive on water -- frozen water -- at the wildest gymkhana of the year.

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Wayne informs us that the weather will be nicer this year, and that he plans a few interesting changes. The courses will be longer and more challenging, and there will be only four classes this year: men with snow tires; men with regular tires; women with snow tires; and women with regular tires. No regional points will be awarded, but trophies will be presented to the top 1/3 finishers, the best overall, plus the Whirling Dervish Award. Only one passenger will be allowed, and may only ride in the front seat. This event is limited to Porsches. Dinner (remember the great sirloin of beef?) will be served promptly at 5:00 P.M.

January, the "worst" month of the year, is once again "saved" by the Ice Gymkhana, so bring along your "longies", ice skates, and have a good time.


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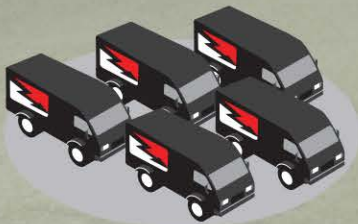
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