



Hudson Champlain Region Porsche Club of America

AIR*COOLED ADVERTISER

Spring 2011





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especially with your Porsche.**

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On the Cover:

The air cooled power plant
out of a Porsche 911.

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From the President

Even though the calendar says it is Spring, we just received a late snow fall and we have not seen temperatures above the high 30's and low 40's. This makes getting the Porsche out of storage a bit difficult, not to mention trying to do any work on the car in preparation for the upcoming driving season. Despite the unseasonably cold Spring, we have had our first drive of the year, and we have a lot more planned for April.

On the 26th of March, twenty seven of our members (some in their Porsches), took a drive to Beardslee Castle in Little Falls, NY for a Murder Mystery Dinner Theater. Rumor has it, and I think there is a photo on the website, that our own Membership Chairman Bill Meckley was part of the show. He was cast in the part of a priest.

April's drive is scheduled for Saturday the 16th and we will be traveling to the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA followed by lunch at the Red Lion Inn. Sue and Chip Chora have put this event together for the members, so I hope you will be able to join us.

Amelia and I were not unfortunately unable to attend our drive to Beardslee Castle as it was on the same day as the Zone 1 President's Meeting in Latham.

Twice a year all the Region Presidents from Zone 1 gather right in the center of our region to talk about the club. The discussion topics range from what is going on at the National level, to activities planned by Zone 1 such as the Rally and Concourse, Club Race, 48 Hours Drivers Education and the Autocross, and any issues regions may encounter during the year. This meeting

“... we have turned a tidy little profit to start off the season.”

helps disseminate important information to the region Presidents, and allows newly elected Presidents to take advantage of the wealth of knowledge that exists with the more experienced Presidents.

April is the start of our Drivers Education season. We had very well attended Drivers Education meeting in early March. The participant's skill levels spanned all run groups and our Track Chairman, Don Schneider and our Chief Instructor, Van Svenson presented a very informative presentation on our DE program. To continue helping our members who are new to DE, I am pleased to announce that after a year of hard work we are officially rolling out our Drivers Education Mentor Program. Thanks to the efforts of Chris De Graffenried, drivers new to DE's can request a mentor to help them with any questions or issues they have prior to or during a DE. Please see Chris's article on page 7 for further details. We feel this program will help take some of the guess work and anxiety out of new drivers attending DE's

The club's first two Drivers Education events of the year are at Lime Rock Park in CT. Friday, April 8th is an advanced DE for white run group drivers and up, and I am pleased to say that we have sold all 30 spots for that event. Saturday the 9th is a novice DE for the Green, Yellow and Red run group drivers. We have

sold out the Green and Yellow instructed run groups and have only 3 spots left for Yellow solo drivers. With such a tremendous turn out for both events, we have turned a tidy little profit to start off the season.

If you were not able to make it into either of these events, not to worry. Registration for our Cups and Saucers Advanced DE, on May 11th and 12th, is currently open. This is an advanced DE for white run group drivers and up. Once again, we will have pro coaching available for hire as well as a Wednesday night dinner featuring Skip Barber instructor Peter Argetsinger. Complete information on this event can be found at clubregistration.net. Once again Zone 1 will be hosting their annual 48 Hours at The Glen DE on June 17th - 19th. This event is open to all run groups, with Friday being an instructor only day. This is the longest running PCA Drivers Education event in the country. Drivers are treated to 30 minute run sessions both days and last year HCP members went out for a group dinner on Saturday night, which we plan to do again this year. Registration for this event will open on April 15th via clubregistration.net. Last year we had over 20 drivers from our region attend, and I would love to top that number this year.

The last thing I would like to discuss is elections. 2011 is an election year for our club, and even though it is only April, it is not too early to start thinking about our elections this Fall. Elections will be held for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested in running for one of these positions please feel free to talk to one of the current Board Members and we will be more than happy to let you know what the job entails. We will also be looking for members who would be interested in one of the many chairman positions. It will be the responsibility of the new Board to select Chairs for Activities, Autocross, Historical, Membership, Newsletter, Safety, Safety, and webmaster. We are also looking for members interested in serving on the nominating committee. Members appointed to that committee will have the responsibility of reviewing nominations from members and holding the election. These are very important positions and anyone who is interested should contact me directly.

Looking forward to seeing you this Spring.

Aaron Ambrosino
president@hcp-pca.com

Drivers Education Mentor Program

Is it anyone else's first time at the track? What brake pads should I use in my 911? Is there a nice hotel in Watkins Glen? Do I know anybody going to the Connecticut Valley, Lime Rock Park, Drivers Education event? Where is a good place to eat in Mt. Tremblant? What is the best route to Monticello Motorsports Park? Who can perform the tech inspection for my car in the Albany area?

For both experienced and new drivers, many questions arise before ever setting your tires on track at a PCA Drivers Education event. Maybe you have had all of these questions in the past or maybe there are ones you forgot to ask that you wish you had. In either situation the new HCP PCA Drivers Education Mentor Program is here to help.

The new Mentor Program's goals are simple; to pair Novice attendees with Experienced attendees for all of the off-the-track information that they might need. HCP has assembled a group of its own members with significant track day experience who are willing to share their knowledge with interested Green and Yellow run group drivers. This program is separate from the Instructor program, as a mentor can be paired with someone at any time before a track event. Examples of questions we can help answer include:

- Is there any track etiquette I need to know?
- Where do I stay? Where can I find something to eat? How do I get there?
- What can I do with my family when off track?
- Who else is going? Can I caravan with someone?
- What do I need to do to prepare my car (including technical information)?
- What do I need to do to prepare myself?
- Is there someone from HCP going to another regions DE event?

Let the HCP DE mentor program help you sort the details so that you can focus on having a fun and safe time at the track! For more information about the mentor program or to get paired up for an upcoming event please contact me at HCPMentors@hotmail.com or 518-813-4492. Be sure to check out www.clubregistration.net regarding our upcoming DE events.

Chris de Graffenried

Meet Me At The Apex

Well, Spring time is finally approaching, which means track season begins! If you're like me, you've probably spent a portion of the winter dreaming about getting back on the track, watching videos, reading about new techniques and discussing with friends how to "go faster". And now it's time to see if our skills will actually improve! The corresponding question to, "Have my skills improved?" is, "Am I ready for the next run group?"

In an effort to ensure drivers of similar skill levels are driving together (both in our region and when drivers participate with other regions), I've been busy this winter with the club officers to come up with an official "driver's ed progression process", which I'll outline here. This process will not only give drivers a clear definition of the steps and expectations, but it also closely mimics the methods used by the larger regions in the Northeast (the larger the region, the more track days it hosts, and the more opportunities we have for driving on the track). By adopting a sort of standardized protocol, we take steps to ensure our skill level divisions are the same as other regions; therefore, if you're driving in the White group with us, your skills are adequate for CVR's White group (and NNJR's, and Metro's, etc.).

The two largest factors that build high-speed driving skills are: seat time and level of instruction. As such, these become the foundation of the guidelines. The table below outlines an expected number of days in each run group – and the amount of instruction recommended (some of the instruction is mandatory and some is "suggested" – but, remember, every instructor will have different styles, nuances and experience, the more knowledge you put in the passenger seat, the better you'll be able to grow).

	Total Days	Instructed Days
Green to Yellow	5	5
Yellow to White	13	5*
White to Black	12	4**
Black to Red***	10	

*Of the 8 solo days, an instructor should be solicited for at least 1 session 4 of those days.

**At least 1 session per day.

***If a Black driver is interested, a meeting with the chief instructor is the first step to becoming an instructor candidate.

“Am I ready for the next run group?”

continued on page 12

Virtual GT Racing Simulator



Despite not having a driver's license, Nick Corah turned some hot laps on the simulator.

Rocky Rockowitz tested his driving skills at the famous Lime Rock Park circuit on the Virtual GT Racing Simulator.



Dan Heilman had the fastest lap of the day which won him two tickets to the race of his choice at Lime Rock Park in CT.

Tech Session at AutoHaus Motors



Our first Tech Session of the year was at AutoHaus Motors. They walked us through changing oil in a 911.

AutoHaus Master Mechanic Frank Viva changes the oil filter before refilling the car with fresh oil.



A 996 was in the shop having its rear main seal replaced, so Frank explained what was involved with that repair.

Tech Session at Ensign Autobody



Bob Ensign, the owner of Ensign Autobody uses a razor blade to shave down any high spots on a freshly painted hood.

The results of wet sanding the hood with 2000 grit sand paper.



The Hemmings Motornews MGB is in the final stages of re-assembly.

Of course, in addition to just racking up seat time, there are proficiency skills identified with each run group and, as an organization, we want to make sure each driver has the right skills to progress to the next level. Evaluation rides, where an instructor uses a checklist and fills out a written evaluation form, will be used to assess skill competency. For progression from the Green to Yellow group, one successful checkout ride is needed. For all other run group progressions, two successful checkout rides are required (on two different days with two different instructors). If possible, one of the two checkout rides will be performed in the next run group up – for example, to progress from White to Black, one checkout ride will be in each group. If, after a checkout ride, the instructor feels the driver is not ready for the progression, the skills that need development will be discussed and, when the driver feels they have been mastered, he/she can request another checkout ride.

To schedule a checkout ride, simply speak with (or email) the chief instructor or track chair prior to an event – it may not always be logistically possible to schedule a checkout ride if the request is made **during** the event.

I'll meet you at the apex!
Van Svenson

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Member Anniversaries

15 Years

Jeffrey Ellis
Richard Dobush

10 Years

Gary Hobbs
Jeffrey Markussen
Frank Paturzo
David Zecchini

5 Years

Steven Montano
Matthew Johnson
Rick Gifford
Stephen Marlow
Howard Kunz
Tim Brennan
Richard Phillips
Peter Prehoda
Ted Toothaker

New Members

Timothy Lynch
2007 Cayman S Silver

Stephen Page
2009 Carrera S Gray

Greg Seaman
2003 Boxster Silver

Henry Seidel
1987 924S Red

Edward Stammel
1981 911 Black

James VanDyke
1984 944 Gray

Brian Wallingford
1962 356 B Red

David Shalaby
1985 911 Red

Peter Belmonte
2011 GT2RS Red

Clint Johnson
2007 Cayman Black

John Pellerin
2005 Boxster S Silver

George Poitras
2004 911 Black

Calendar of Events

April 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

April

Monday, April 4th

Monthly Meeting and Tech Session 7:00 p.m. at
AutoHaus Motors, 768 Saratoga Road, Burnt Hills

Friday, April 8th

Advanced Drivers Education event at Lime Rock Park, CT

Saturday, April 9th

Novice Drivers Education event at Lime Rock Park, CT

Saturday, April 16th

Norman Rockwell Museum and lunch at the
Red Lion Inn Stockbridge, MA

Calendar of Events

May 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

May

Monday, May 2nd

Monthly Meeting and Tech Session 7:00 p.m. at
Langan Motorcar, 2240 Central Avenue, Schenectady

Wednesday - Thursday, May 11th - 12th

Cups and Saucers Advanced Drivers Education Event at
Watkins Glen

Sunday, May 15th*

Intro to Autocross a.m. / Autocross p.m.
Location to be announced

Sunday, May 22nd*

Vermont Wooden Bowl Company and lunch at the
Bryant House, Weston, VT

*Dates are tentative

Calendar of Events

June 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

June

Sunday, June 5th

Annual Picnic at John Boyd Thacher Park

Monday, June 6th

Monthly Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Location to be announced

Friday - Sunday, June 17th – 19th

Zone 1 48 Hours DE at The Glen

Registration opens April 15th on clubregistration.net

Saturday, June 25th*

Erie Canal Village Rome, NY

*Dates are tentative

Calendar of Events

July 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

July

Sunday, July 10th*

Rhinebeck Aero Dome and lunch at
Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck

Monday, July 11th

Monthly Meeting 7:00 p.m. at
Langan Motorcar, 2240 Central Avenue, Schenectady

Sunday, July 24th*

Autocross. Location to be announced.

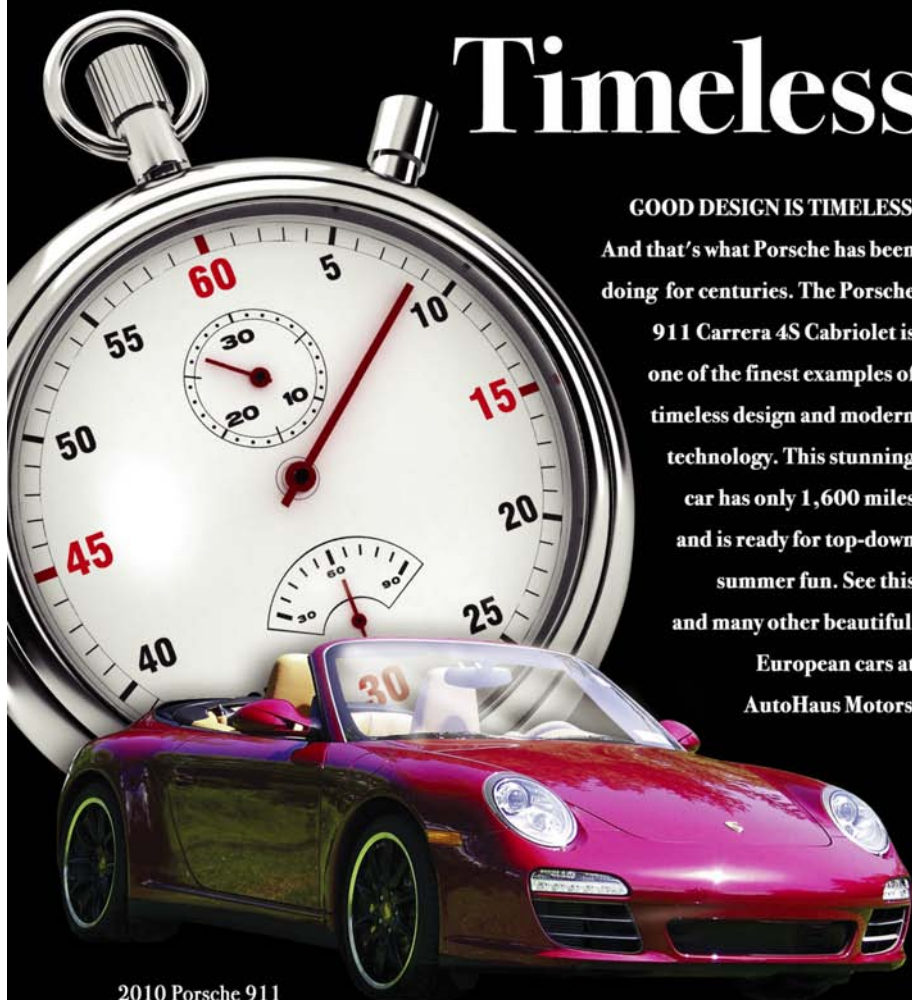
Sunday - Saturday, July 31st - August 6th

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