

July 2008

# Der Sportwagen

Official Publication of the Kansas City Region Porsche Club of America

[www.kcrpca.org](http://www.kcrpca.org)



2008 Club Race by Cindy Thomas

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**Der Sportwagen**

Kansas City Region  
Porsche Club of America  
July 2008

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Size	One Issue	Six Issues	Ad Sizes
Full Page	\$80	\$375	7.5" x 10"
Half Page	\$45	\$190	7.5" x 4.75"
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See [www.kcrpca.org](http://www.kcrpca.org) for website advertising rates!

**Moving?**

Porsche Club of America National Office requests that all address changes and record updates, including phone, fax, email and car model information, be sent directly to Carolyn Ewbank, Membership Committee Chair. Her address is in the back of **PANORAMA** magazine. It would be helpful if you would also send any changes to Kansas City Region Membership Chairman, Doug Pierce. Following this procedure should ensure that you get timely receipt of all magazines and newsletters.

**Join us for Breakfast!**

Every Saturday at 7:30 am, the Club meets for breakfast at LePeep Restaurant at 79<sup>th</sup> & Quivira in Lenexa, KS.



It's a great opportunity to get to know other Club members, look at an ever-changing collection of Porsches, and enjoy a tasty meal.

**Innerhalb**

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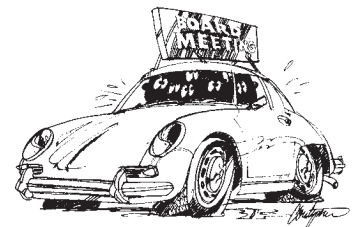


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**Monthly Board Meetings**

Kansas City Region PCA Board Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 pm. Any KCRPCA member is welcome to attend. Meetings are held at the home of Greg Wright, 4709 NE Shady Lane, Kansas City, MO.



**Next month's meeting: August 5**





Greg Wright, President

## Die Anmerkung von Greg

Greetings

Well, here it is late June and good ole number 5, my 944 S2 stock race car, Lance and I have been at track events six weekends including two PCA Club races and four driver education events held by two Porsche Regions, an Audi interregional event and a Central Iowa BMW event up at Mid America Motorplex in Glenwood, IA. While I still debate whether snow skiing or driving a Porsche on the track is the most fun one can have with pants on, both activities are exhilarating and somewhat costly to undertake. Most recently however, I am acutely aware of the cost of rubber, brakes, oil and brake fluid changes, not to mention the petrol that fuels the beast and tow vehicle. What fun, but also a lot of work, I could usually use a day off – from my days off, if that makes any sense.

I am enjoying a three-week hiatus from the track and can concentrate to some degree on the rest of the great events the Kansas City Region has to offer. As a “debutante” car show participant, choices have been numerous in the past week, in that we had our Club Race sponsor Aristocrat Motors, involved with the Art of the Car Concours held at the Kansas City Art Institute. During the same time period, Porsches and Powerboats was held out in Blue Springs, MO at Blue Springs Marine. One had food involved; the other was a charity event. Sorry, but the food choice won – have to keep this finely-tuned engine of mine full.

I am just now starting to come down from the chocolate buzz induced at the Pierce’s open house a month ago. But with my birthday, anniversary and Kathy’s birthday all in a two-week period, I suspect that chocolate overload (not really possible for highly-trained individuals like myself), will continue for some time. Good deal.

Of my many hobbies, golf (a four-letter word) is one of them. I have watched with utter amazement as my handicap has billowed from a 15 to the low 20s over the past few years, thanks to an inside swing plane issue. Playing only once a week, at most, with little driving range time is a sure formula for mediocrity and worse. Thanks to some diagnostic lessons, the wheels are starting to get back on the cart, and I have been graced with some rounds in the 80s. The driver has me using wedges on approach shots and they are actually hitting the green. Guess there really isn’t much to this game? On that note,

I would like to hear from some of the other Porsche Club hackers out there and discuss a first annual golf tournament to be held this Fall.

July is going to be a busy month for the Wright clan as we will be attending a DE at Road America, followed closely by the open house July 19th at Judy and Richard Bennett’s, displaying the joys of a patio kitchen. Burgers and brats are the order of the day, but Richard will cook anything if you bring it, along with a pot luck dish or dessert. Next we are off for a short driving tour ending at the Marina Grog & Galley on the 26th of July. Much fun to be had this summer. We’ll be working on social events for August and beyond at the next Board meeting, all members are welcome to attend and share your ideas.

—Greg



Cindy Thomas, Editor

## From the Editor

**Where are you???**

We are missing you at our social events! AND we are missing social events! Do you have a great idea for a get-together that you think would be a great way to meet new and old members, see some great cars and sit around and tell stories? Well, step up and let us know! The weather’s improved and we’d love to have your ideas. Please contact Greg Wright, at [googebince@sbcglobal.net](mailto:googebince@sbcglobal.net) and tell him what you’d like to see us do for a future event. Any and all ideas are welcome!

We would also love to have a social events coordinator and we’ll offer lots of assistance to someone who would love to create fun memories for the members of the Kansas City Region. Again, contact Greg Wright if interested.

Lastly, I am happy to say that Haley Hoelscher and Aaron Rubenking are excited and ready to go on *Der Sportwagen!* If you have any great ideas for articles, please let me, Haley or Aaron know. Any ideas for tech articles would be welcomed as well and we’ll get our tech experts on the job, pronto!

Until next month!

—Cindy

# Bennett Open House

July 19, 2008 at 4:00 pm

By Richard Bennett, KCRPCA Vice President of Driving Activities

Come join us for our Porsche Club Open House BBQ. Saturday, July 19th at 4:00 pm and onwards. This will be a casual outdoor event, to christen our newly-completed outdoor barbeque (completed in-between wrenching on Porsches). Burgers and brats provided by KCRPCA. I will also cook anything you would care to bring, especially if it's a T-bone for me. We have a selection of beverages, also provided by the KCRPCA or bring your own favorite drinks.

Appetizers, side dishes or desserts would be greatly appreciated.

**Location:**

304 NE Oaks Ridge Drive (next to Lakewood)  
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816-478-6875

Please RSVP to Richard or Judy at [samluke@sbc-global.net](mailto:samluke@sbc-global.net).

—Richard

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## PCA Emailer System

By Doug Pierce, KCRPCA Membership Chair & Zone 10 Rep



You have no doubt received email reminders and notices over the past few months generated through the PCA Emailer system, that is, if you have a valid email address in the PCA National database and have not opted-out. PCA National initiated their Emailer system not long ago for use in communicating with members via electronic mail. The new system has saved a ton of time, and money, and provides your Region management with another tool with which to keep you informed. Locally, the PCA Emailer system can only be accessed by your Region President and Membership Chair so email address information is well-protected and will not be abused.

The Emailer System does have some limitations and eccentricities that are interesting and/or annoying. Emails sent through the PCA Emailer System are routed through an unmonitored alias even though a valid sender name and email address is displayed on the "From" line. Also, the email footnote indicates who sent it. Responding to an email sent through the Emailer System by clicking your Reply button sends your correspondence into the ozone somewhere. The sender never sees your response.

If you have multiple email addresses on file with PCA National, including any for your Associate or Family member (even if the email addresses are the same), you will get multiple copies of the same email. The emailing

address list is generated through the system by gathering all the email addresses currently in the database. You can eliminate duplicates by editing your personal information at the PCA National website, [www.pca.org](http://www.pca.org), and removing email addresses as you desire. Otherwise, just delete the extra emails you get.

You can also completely opt-out of the system and receive no emails from either PCA National or your Region. At this point, it's an all or nothing deal. You can't elect to receive emails from just one entity and not the other. This email opt-out election can be made or edited in the same blue personal information box on the PCA National website referenced above when you are logged-in.

If receiving notices and reminders by email is something that you would like, make sure your email address is current. If you change your Internet Service Provider (ISP) and change your email address, change jobs and you receive PCA emails at work, or just change your email address for no particular reason, be sure to edit your personal information at PCA National so that everything is correct.

Don't be left out, assuming of course that you want to be left in.

—Doug

# Porsche Factory Tour

Article and photos by Dale Trippler, Nord Stern Region Member

Reprinted with permission from *Nord Stern*, January 2008

My friend Jo and I toured the Porsche factory in Stuttgart on Tuesday, November 13, 2007. The good folks at Maplewood Imports arranged our tour. You don't just drop in when you are in Stuttgart, you know. You must have an invitation.

Our tour started at 9:30 AM SHARP! Anyone late is SOL. You are in Germany, remember! Our tour guide gave the tour in English and there were only five of us so it felt very personal. We think the other folks were from England, based on their accent.

The tour took over three hours and started in the area where they assemble the engines. There were three lines where engines are assembled, one for most of the 911 engines, one for Boxster and Cayman engines and a third for the Turbo and Cayenne engines. Each line has 25 stations.

An engine block is brought to Station 1 along with a cart full of special parts for that specific engine. Someone has loaded the cart with all of the special parts that will be needed based on the specification for the car ordered. As the engine block begins to move along, ONE person walks with the engine and assembles the entire engine from start to finish.

At each station, there are special tools they need for a specific part or parts to be added to the block. It takes approximately 90 minutes to assemble the engine. When it is completed, the person who built it must sign the invoice slip so Porsche knows exactly who built the engine. It then goes to an area

where they put in hot oil and run the engine to make sure it works right. If they find a problem, it goes back and gets fixed. If it runs fine, it moves on in the assembly line.

At the same time as the engine is being assembled, the body is put on the line. What is so interesting is that each car on the assembly line is in the order in which the order was received. That means that you could have a

911 S, followed by a GT3, followed by a 911 Cab, followed by a 911 C4 and so on. All of the cars and the parts for the cars are assembled and brought to the line AS NEEDED. One of the most interesting moments in the assembly line is when the engine and drive train join up with the body. Once those pieces are joined together, it is then considered a car. Before that, it is just parts.

Because of space constraints, only 911s are assembled at the Stuttgart factory. The Boxsters and Caymans are assembled in Finland and the Cayennes and Panameras are built in Leipzig. But all the engines are assembled in the Stuttgart factory. The 911 engines are put into the bodies there and the other engines are put on trains and shipped off to the other factories.

Almost everything is done by hand, except for a robot which installs the glass. The robot can do the job so much better than humans can; this is the one place a machine has taken over for man.



Continued on next page . . .



**Porsche Factory Tour . . .  
continued from previous page**

Another very interesting part of the tour was the place where they work on the leather. The hides come in to the factory and are put on a large table that has a computer camera and a laser. One person operates the laser table and identifies imperfections in the hides. A computer digitizes all of the obvious flaws and the operator uses a hand digitizer and marks out the outline of flaws the computer camera can't see. Since each hide has a unique shape, the computer digitizes the shape and the flaws and creates a file for each hide. Then the hides are taken over to another large table and spread out flat. The table then moves into a cutting machine that cuts out all of the flaws using very high-pressure water jets. When the hide comes out of the machine, the waste is put into a bin that goes to other factories where it is used to make gloves, coats or whatever they can. Only the good leather is left and the machine has also cut the good leather into shapes needed for seats, the dash or other parts of the car. Those pre-cut pieces are taken to an area where they are sewn together to make seats, dash, consoles or whatever.

Once the cars are fully-assembled, every tenth car is test driven on the street. The other nine go through a simulator to check for leaks, creaks and everything else you can think of. Now, if you want a dream job, how about test-driving a brand new Porsche every hour or so? I would seriously consider coming out of retirement for THAT job.

If you plan to go to Germany anytime soon, I highly recommend talking to your Porsche dealer and arranging a tour of the factory in Stuttgart. It is absolutely amazing and when you walk away you can understand why Porsches are so expensive. Every car is custom built to the owner's specification. And almost everything is assembled by hand by craftsmen who know exactly what they are doing and who take a great deal of pride in what they do.

The only unfortunate thing about the tour is you don't get to test drive any Porsches AND they don't give out any free samples. But otherwise it was

well worth the trip and I highly recommend it to all PCA members and their families.

But remember, you need to make a reservation ahead of time. You can't just stop in and expect to be taken on the next tour. Also, the new museum is still under construction. It was supposed to be done this year, but they are now looking at the end of 2008. If you can wait, you might want to plan your trip after that is completed. They will have over 100 cars on display when the new facility is done.

—Dale

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# Getting to Know . . . Judy Bennett



**DS:** Judy, what Porsche do you currently drive?

**Judy:** 1996 Metallic Black 911 Carrera 2 Cabriolet.

**DS:** Where do you service your Porsche?

**Judy:** Bennett's Garage.

**DS:** What books are you currently reading?

**Judy:** *Skinny Bitch* (?) Christmas gift. Not sure what my friend was trying to say.

**DS:** What's your favorite movie of all time?

**Judy:** *Lord of the Rings*. All the movies in the series.

**DS:** Why do you participate in the KCRPCA?

**Judy:** Richard has an addiction!!!

**DS:** Your first ride in a Porsche?

**Judy:** Richard's first Grey 944 Turbo.

**DS:** What's your favorite slogan/saying?

**Judy:** You are what you eat.

**DS:** What's your dream job?

**Judy:** I am doing it. Personal trainer and fitness coach.

**DS:** Name the place you want to go, but haven't been.

**Judy:** Hawaii. Take note, Richard.

**DS:** My favorite local restaurant . . .

**Judy:** The Bristol.

**DS:** What is your favorite vacation destination?

**Judy:** Still waiting for Richard to take me to that place. May never happen!

**DS:** Tell us about the most memorable Club experience you've had.

**Judy:** They are all memorable. Probably last year's trip to Hastings. We lost a wheel of the trailer on the way there and nearly lost another on the way home. Fortunately, we were rescued by Doug Pierce and Brian Forsyth and made it home.

**DS:** If I had all the money in the world, THE car in my garage would be . . .

**Judy:** Not sure, I like the car that Grace Kelly drove. Very classy.

**DS:** Your favorite sports team/sporting event . . .

**Judy:** Sharks United, my daughter's soccer team, which ties with the Tour de France. And I like to run/bike.

**DS:** Your favorite celebrity?

**Judy:** Johnny Depp.

**DS:** What is your favorite Club activity/social event?

**Judy:** Holiday Party. Get to see everyone and catch up.

**DS:** At least one thing I want to do before I die . . .

**Judy:** A triathlon, but I can't get past the swimming in a lake.

**DS:** If you won the lottery, what's the 1st thing you'd buy?

**Judy:** The family (including those in the UK) a great vacation together.

**DS:** What's your most embarrassing Porsche moment?

**Judy:** Reversing the family van into Richard's Grey 944 Turbo, followed closely by reversing the family van into Richard's White race car.



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**08** PORSCHE IN THE HEARTLAND

## Heat in the Heartlands

By Richard Bennett, KCRPCA Vice President of Driving Activities



We just completed the second 08 KCRPCA High Performance Driver Education Event at Heartland Park Topeka, home of the SCCA runoffs.

We had fantastic weather, despite the weatherman's prediction of rain all three days. Each day was sunny and warm with little wind, which is so unlike Heartland Park this time of the year.

As always, we had a wide selection of cars, ranging from 914s and 944s up to GT3s, Corvettes and even a couple of Lotus Exiges. The event went smoothly with a little lost time for a few mechanical issues.

We had quite a few "Taste of the Track" participants, and this time we didn't need any sick bags.

Thanks go to Jeff Knight who was Chief Instructor for the weekend. Al Hess fired up the barbecue for our traditional Saturday night dinner and storytelling.

Mark your calendars for the final KCRPCA HPDE of the year, October 17-19. Again, we will be offering a DE weekend program for students, and open track Friday for instructors and advanced/solo students. We will also be offering the "Taste of the Track" program for those interested in experiencing a little of what it's like, plus charity laps. Sign-up will be available in August through clubregistration.net or you can contact me at samluke@sbcglobal.net.

—Richard

## Fun Drive to Marina Grog & Galley Lake Lotawana, MO

**July 26, 2008**



Please make plans to join us Saturday, July 26, 2008, for an off-the-beaten-path drive to the Marina Grog and Galley Restaurant located at Lake Lotawana, Missouri for dinner. Once we arrive at the restaurant, we will enjoy excellent food and scenic views of the lake.

This will be about a one-hour drive and we will meet at the Independence Center Shopping Center (Macy's – North Park-

ing lot) at 4:00 pm and promptly depart at 4:30 pm. The Independence Center Shopping Center is located off Hwy 470 and East 39th Street in Independence, Missouri.

The Marina Grog and Galley offers a variety of items such as seafood, steaks and Hawaiian food for your dining enjoyment. Additionally, you can view their website at [www.marinagrogandgalley.com](http://www.marinagrogandgalley.com).

Please feel free to contact Neill Flood (913-424-3092) if you have any questions.

—Neill



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**PCA ZONE 10 CALENDAR**  
Update 06/08/2008

**JULY**

1	Canada Day at the Mint	Red River
9	Tech Tour Hydro	Red River
11	Drive and Dine to Hurley, Missouri	Ozark Lakes
12	Summer Picnic	Red River
12	Automobilia's 14th Annual Moonlight Car Show & Street Party	Wichita
14-15	Drivers Education, Road America	Nord Stern
13	Afternoon Drive in the Sun	Central Iowa
18	Social hosted by the Lunde's	Dakota
19	Sonic Show & Shine	Great Plains
19	Open house at the Bennetts	Kansas City
25-27	PCA Club Race and DE - Brainerd International Raceway	Nord Stern
26	Fun drive to Marina Grog & Galley Restaurant	Kansas City
26-27	Drivers Ed – Midamerica Motorplex	Great Plains
27	Trip to Fast Eddie's Bon Aire in Alton	St. Louis

**AUGUST**

9	Dusk Patrol and 40th Anniversary Party at the Forrette's	Dakota
10	Koni Challenge Iowa Speedway	Schonesland
21-24	Run for the Hills 6 multi-region event	Dakota
15	Porsche Night on the Town, Davenport, Iowa	Central Iowa
18	Get on Down the Road Rally, Lakeville Theater parking lot start	Nord Stern
24	Sertoma Car Show, Iowa City Airport	Central Iowa

**SEPTEMBER**

13	Crown Valley Winery tour	St. Louis
14	Havelock Car Show	Great Plains
18-20	PCA Escape to the Land of Enchantment, Albuquerque, NM	
19-21	RVBOWWOW4 (tour Lake Pepin area of Mississippi River in MN/WI)	Dakota
19-21	Annual North Shore Fall Color Tour	Nord Stern
23	Sienna Car Show	Wichita
26-28	Last Fling Driver Training and Driver Ed - Brainerd, MN	Nord Stern
26	Porsche Night on the Town, Dubuque, Iowa	Central Iowa
27-28	Fall Carrera Classic Drivers Ed – Gateway	St. Louis

**OCTOBER**

11	Anniversary Car Show Autocross	St. Louis
11	Westboro Fun Run	Great Plains
12	Porsche Only Car Show	St. Louis
12	Fall Leaf Tour	Central Iowa
18	Breakfast at Tiffany's (Sweetest Day) – Hosted by Forrette	Dakota
17-19	Drivers Education, Heartland Park, Topeka	Kansas City
25	Fall Colors Tour	St. Louis

**NOVEMBER**

8-9	PCA Palooza, Eureka Springs, Arkansas	
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**DECEMBER**

1	Holiday Party	St. Louis
12	Christmas Gathering hosted by he Eide's	Dakota
17	Board Meeting – Changing of the Guard	St. Louis
18	Holiday Party	Central Iowa

**JANUARY 2009**

24	Region 50th Anniversary Party	St. Louis
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For detailed information about listed events, see the respective Region's website or the PCA National website at [www.pca.org](http://www.pca.org).

Central Iowa Region: <a href="http://www.ciapca.org">www.ciapca.org</a>	Ozark Lakes Region: <a href="http://www.olk.pca.org/">www.olk.pca.org/</a>
Dakotas Region: <a href="http://www.dak.pca.org">www.dak.pca.org</a>	Red River Region: <a href="http://RedRiverPCA.org">RedRiverPCA.org</a>
Great Plains Region: <a href="http://porsche.ellipse.net/">porsche.ellipse.net/</a>	Schönesland Region: <a href="http://www.shonesland.org">www.shonesland.org</a>
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## Calendar of Events

See [www.kcrpca.org](http://www.kcrpca.org) for updated information about upcoming events.

See page 11 for PCA Zone 10 Calendar

### July

- 19 Bennett Open House (see page 5)
- 26 Fun Drive to Marina Grog & Galley (see p. 10)

### October

17-19 KCRPCA DE at Heartland Park (TBA)



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