

# The devil's Advocate

Diablo Region PCA

February 2008

## Ron Leppke

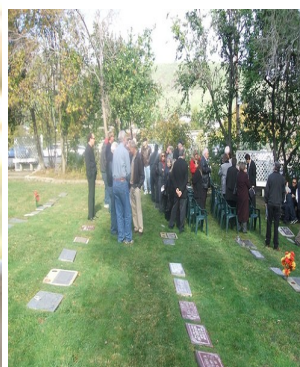
Final 'Farewell' for Ron Leppke was held at a graveside service at the Lafayette Cemetery, on January 12th.

Opera music was played, and we learned that Ron not only loved this music, but also sang it around the world as a member of a Bay Area singing group he was a member of. He also sang in Carnegie Hall, I have been told.

Ron will be so missed by his family, and the many friends he had, including those in the Porsche Club.

Ron was a member of the PCA for over 40 years, and a charter member of the Diablo Region PCA. He was the chief photographer for Zone 7. He was 73 years old.

Ron will truly be missed by us all.



Porsche- lined street leading to the cemetery



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## Special points of interest:

- Please read and respond to our call for help on page 2-4.
- Article by Ken Wu on Kahler's Tech inspection—page 9-10
- Article by Adam Cipriano on Thunderhill event— page 11.
- Photo's by Ken Wu— page 12 & 13

# Diablo Needs *You!!*

By Steve Jones

Our region has nearly 600 regular members, over 1,000 including affiliate members, but a mere handful of these members have been involved in putting on events and running the region. If we want Diablo to thrive and be able to put on the types of events all of us can enjoy, this has to change.

The good news is, each of us can make a difference! We have opportunities for people to get involved and contribute at all levels of the club, and at all levels of time commitment. From board members to ticket takers, from registrars to graphic artists, we need your unique talents to make Diablo more enjoyable and rewarding.

All of the positions listed are appointed by the Board of Directors for one calendar year, except where otherwise stated. However non-Board positions can be renewed for as long as the member wishes and the Board agrees.

To apply for one of these positions, send email to [president@diablo-pca.org](mailto:president@diablo-pca.org) and include a few sentences about why you think you'd be right for the position.

## Member-At-Large, Board of Directors

A Member-At-Large of the Board of Directors volunteers for or is assigned various duties by the Board of Directors. They attend monthly meetings to conduct the region's business, and collaborate with the rest of the Board between meetings. This is a leadership position and so requires a significant time commitment. At-Large members may also hold other positions as described below.

The available term runs through the end of 2009.

## Secretary, Board of Directors

The club's Secretary is a member of the Board of Directors. In addition to those duties, the Secretary is responsible for compiling and publishing minutes of meetings of the Board, organizing all official Diablo correspondence, and managing the annual elections. This is a leadership position and an officer of the corporation, and so requires a significant time commitment.

The available term runs through the end of 2008.

## Assistant Secretary

This person will assist the Secretary in carrying out their duties as described above. In the event the Secretary is absent from Board meetings, the Assistant Secretary will represent them in the meeting.

## Membership Chair

The Membership Chair is responsible for handling inquiries from the public and potential new members of the club, sending "welcome" packets to new members, and coordinating member retention efforts as directed by the Board. The Membership Chair is often the most familiar person in the club to new members, follows up with members who fail to renew, and recognizes significant member anniversaries.

# Diablo Needs *You!!* (continued)

## [Assistant Membership Chair](#)

This person will assist the Membership Chair in carrying out their duties as described above. They may present the monthly membership report to the Board when the Chair is unable to do so, and be assigned other duties. For example, an Assistant Membership Chair could be responsible for organizing special activities to welcome new members into the club during their first 12 to 24 months.

## [Assistant Newsletter Editor](#)

The Newsletter Editor is responsible for publishing The Devil's Advocate each month. This includes desktop publishing tasks, working with members to obtain pictures and write-ups about region events, or writing stories of interest to our members. The Assistant Editor is expected to work closely with the rest of the Advocate team, the Advertising Manager, and the Webmaster's team.

## [Assistant Events Chair](#)

The Events Chair is responsible for planning the Diablo event calendar, supporting the coordinators of individual events, and coordinating the larger region events such as the Annual Dinner or Holiday Party. Assistant Events Chairs may focus on one of these areas, or share the overall workload with the Chair and other Assistants.

## [Assistant Track Chair, or Track Co-Chair](#)

The Track Chair is responsible for determining the schedule of track events for the year, making arrangements with venues, interacting with vendors, organizing volunteers and instructors, etc. There are many, many tasks that go into making a track event happen, and there is an opportunity here for one or more members to learn how it all works. Time commitment and duties will determine whether the member is an Assistant or Co-Chair, with an opportunity for advancement if so desired.

## [Goodie Store Manager](#)

The region offers certain Porsche, PCA, and Diablo-branded merchandise for sale; this operation is generally referred to as The Goodie Store. The Manager is responsible for making sure these goods are available for purchase at Diablo events, maintaining inventory, proposing new products, and reporting Store activity to the Board. There is a great opportunity for creative merchandising here...

## [Registrar](#)

When Diablo holds larger events, the Registrar will accept applications and checks from members, compile a roster for people checking in at the start of the event, determine if anybody is due a refund, and otherwise assist with the smooth operation of these events.

## [Event Staff](#)

We need a number of members willing to work registration, staff rally checkpoints, and otherwise help out when the region puts on events. A willingness to pitch in and help is the most important qualification for this position.

## Diablo Needs *You!!* (Continued)

### Webmaster

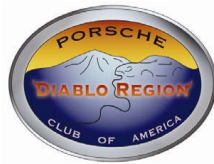
The Diablo web site should be a focus of information and activity for all members of the region. Somebody with experience in web site design and operations is required to lead a team that will redesign and maintain the Diablo site. The Webmaster will work at the general direction of the Board, but their team will have the opportunity for considerable creative expression.

### Assistant Webmaster

Work as part of a team charged with making the Diablo web site a central part of the region's online life. This position helps the Webmaster fulfill their responsibilities as described above.

### Graphic Designer

Our region needs artwork of various kinds to promote events, use on the web site and newsletter, and to produce region merchandise and apparel. This position is a great opportunity for a creative individual to build up a portfolio of exciting professional work while helping the club. This person would work with various chairs and teams as needed, and might be part of a team



## Next Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, February 12th

Alamo Round Table Pizza

150 Alamo Plaza

Reservation is for 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00

*Member's are Welcome!*

## Come Join the Fun With PCA Diablo Region

At Our Annual Awards/Installation of Officers Dinner

Surround Yourself With the Incredibly Beautiful Cars

at

*Porsche of Fremont*

Saturday February 23, 2008 7:00 PM

### Menu

#### Passed Hors d' Oeuvres

Jumbo Prawn Cocktail, Port-Ginger Chicken Skewers, Bruschetta Classica

### ***BUFFET DINNER***

USDA Choice Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus

Baked Fresh Atlantic Salmon

Roasted New Potatoes

Green Beans Almondine

Garden Salad w/ Balsamic Vinaigrette & Ranch Dressings

Fresh Baked Rolls w/ Butter

### DESSERT

Tuxedo Truffle Mousse Cake

### BEVERAGES

Assorted Sodas, Bottled Water, Coffee

(Bring your favorite wine if you wish)

Raffle Prizes Sponsored by Porsche of Fremont

### [Ticket Information](#)

**\$55 per person**

Send Checks to: PCA/Diablo Region- P.O. Box 30667, Walnut Creek, Ca 94598

**Deadline for checks February 15, 2008** **LIMITED to 50 people**

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## 2 Board of Directors

O	Steven M Jones	<i>President</i>	president@diablo-pca.org
O	Warren Gardner	<i>Vice President</i>	vicepresident@diablo-pca.org
8	Open	<i>Secretary</i>	
	Jim Edmunds	<i>Treasurer</i>	treasurer@diablo-pca.org
	Phil Eskildsen		nametags@diablo-pca.org
B	Maureen Torres		editor@diablo-pca.org
O	Linda Boyd		events@diablo-pca.org
a	Jerry Torres		advertising@diablo-pca.org
r			
d			

### Special Advisors to the Board

a	Eugenie Thomas	<i>Past President</i>	pastpresident@diablo-pca.org
n	Larry Sharp	<i>Zone 7 Representative</i>	larrysharp@comcast.net

### Committee Chairs and other positions

d	Advertising Manager	Jerry Torres	advertising@diablo-pca.org
	Autocross Chair	Eugenie Thomas	autoxchair@diablo-pca.org
D	Charity Coordinator	<i>open</i>	
i	Chief Instructor	Warren Gardner	chiefinstructor@diablo-pca.org
r	Concours Chair	<i>open</i>	
	Membership Chair	<i>open</i>	membership@diablo-pca.org
e	Merchandising	<i>open</i>	
c	Nametag Guy	Phil Eskildsen	nametags@diablo-pca.org
t	Newsletter Editor	Maureen Torres	editor@diablo-pca.org
	Rally/Tour Chair	<i>open</i>	
O	Social Events Chair	Linda Boyd	events@diablo-pca.org
r	Track Chair	Warren Gardner	trackchair@diablo-pca.org
s	Webmaster	Thomas Sullivan	webmaster@diablo-pca.org
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extras

black with silver grey interior, model 911340, steering wheel with raised hub, central locking system, 16-inch alloy wheels, automatic speed control, electric sunroof



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# Tech Inspection at Kahler's on Jan. 12, 2008

By Ken Wu

*How many times have you wished that you could be at two places at the same time? Well, on Saturday, Jan. 12, I had that experience. Ron Leppke's memorial service was that morning and most of us wanted to be there. Unfortunately we had already made a commitment with Kahler's at Dublin to open their shop for us to do tech inspection. Since the Driver's Ed and Instructor Certification Event is on Jan. 20, it was too late to change. So we said a prayer for Ron and his loved ones and headed to Kahler's. We'll miss Ron and his passion for the club.*

Once again, Warren Gardner ( Below Left) organized the whole event with Kahler's, including the pizza lunch. Although this inspection is required under PCA rules prior to a Driver's Ed event, we all enjoyed looking and poking at the underbellies of all these Porsche.



I learned a lot from Ed, the master technician (above, third from the left).

Golden Gate Region joined us that day to have their cars inspected also. There were approximated 55 to 60 Porsche up on lifts. With so many cars that morning, we ran way over the scheduled time of 9 to 12. But Kahler's was patient and helpful. Our thanks to the whole gang there.



Adam Cipriano (above, left) and Luis Soler (above, right) passed my car for the tech inspection, but informed me that the nut behind the steering wheel needed some adjustments.



Dale Miller (left) pointed out the brilliant Porsche design and the excessive brake wear to his lovely wife Kari. But I don't think that she was buying his argument of buying a GT3 for track use just to save the wear and tear on this 997.



# Thunderhill DE

Article by Adam Cipriano



I blame my father. OK, to be fair, perhaps it wasn't totally his fault. But, that's where it started. I just returned from our Drivers Education (DE) event at Thunderhill Raceway Park outside of Willows, just south of Chico. This was my fourth such event since buying a 2005 997 and these days continue to deliver on the promise my father must have been given in 1974. To experience all that a Porsche is, you must drive it at speed. There is no safer, no more educational and for my money, no better way to have that experience than on a racetrack in the company of your fellow PCA club members.

In 1974, my father worked at Edwards Air Force Base in the heart of the Mojave Desert and we lived in Lancaster, CA. For you racers, think Willow Springs in Rosamond and for the rest of you, think of, well, miles of open desert roads through seas of orange poppies and forests of green Yuccas. As a native of New York City, my father developed a thing for cars after coming west and contacted a family friend who owned an early 911. Several months later a shiny Blood Orange (not sure of the correct Porsche color name) 1972 914 1.7 appeared in the driveway. As a 10 year old, it was all I could do not to sleep in that fabulous cool car!

Fast forward to today and, well, you can start to see why I blame my father. At least that's what I told my wife when I bought my car and when I signed up for Drivers Education and when I now buy parts for the car and when I wash it before an event and.....

Typically, everyone who attends a DE day as a driver is assigned a run group and depending on the number of attendees, 4 or 5 run groups are arranged. The groups run back to back throughout the day and you usually drive 20 - 25 minute on track sessions 4 or 5 times during the day with a highly experienced instructor (for beginners) guiding you around every corner. That means you typically have about an hour and a half to 2 hours of track time

Yesterday was an a typical day though. Warren Gardner and the terrific Diablo team organized a special training opportunity for Diablo instructors with the Head of Instruction from PCA National. Since the day involved lots of classroom time mixed with on track time for the instructors and mentors, those of us lucky enough to brave a cold but beautifully dry January day were treated to ideal track conditions and more track time than normal. Ok, that's an understatement. About 20 Intermediate and Advanced drivers were put into one run group and other than the instructors and mentors we basically had the track to ourselves. Yup. 4 hours and 15 minutes of scheduled track time.

Have you ever been to Disneyland when there were no lines? How about your favorite golf course when you didn't see another soul? Can you imagine a sale at Nordstrom where you are the only one of the floor other than employees? You get the point. It was exciting, overwhelming, a special treat and I just didn't want it to end.

If you have the chance to join us on any upcoming DE days, know this. Your pace is up to you. You go only as fast as you feel comfortable. No one keeps score. Everyone has fun. Because the rules are built for your safety and the instruction is there to support you, you just can't miss the chance to improve your skills and confidence and experience these cars the way they were meant to be driven.

I called my Dad on the way home and I thanked him. Over and over.

Adam Cipriano

Diablo Region, PCA

2005 Midnight Blue 997



Thunderhill DE, Jan 20th

Photo's by Ken Wu



Thunderhill DE, Jan 20th  
Photo's by Ken Wu





## My 914 experience at Fletcher Jones Porsche of Fremont

Was fantastic! I'm helping to sell a 914 that has had the same problem for years with thousands of dollars wasted with different mechanics. One trip to Fremont and the car has never run as good as it does now. There are no 914 experts locally, but Gunter assured me that they would "fix me right up" And they did! Thank you Gunter!!!

Eugenie Thomas

Past President, Diablo Porsche Club of America

### *Website News*

**\*\* The minutes for the monthly Board of Directors meeting will be posted on our Web site .**

**\*\* The Diablo Region Calendar of Events will be available to view anytime . To view, type in your browser:**

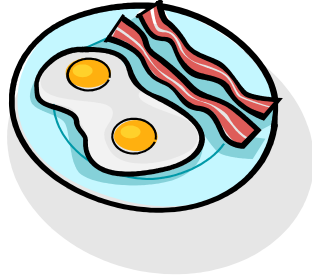
**calendar.diablo-pca.org**

**It will also have a link on our website as well. Be sure to visit it often, to see upcoming events!**

**[dia.pca.org](http://dia.pca.org) (or )**

**[www.diablo-pca.org](http://www.diablo-pca.org)**

# Saturday Breakfast ~ Marie Callender's



7:30 AM every Saturday morning

Come Join the group!

---

*Third Thursday of every month....*

## Dinner at Strizzi's in Danville

3456 Camino Tassajara, Danville, CA.

6:30- Cocktails 7:00- Dinner

In January, we had 12 new members join the dinner group which brought the total attendance to over 35 people! It was great to meet the new members, and hope they all come again!

## The Inside Line

Steve Jones, Diablo President



Well Diablo, the year is off to a busy start. I understand that the New Year's party was a hit, we had a fun and successful Drivers Ed tech inspection at Kahler's in Dublin, and then great weather at Thunderhill on the 20<sup>th</sup>. That Sunday was itself a notable event, which I'll let others speak to.

Sadly, this past month we had to say our final farewells to Ron Leppke. There was at least one informal gathering in his honor prior to the memorial service organized by his family. I was pleased to see so many of Ron's friends from the club at both of these events, as I'm sure Ron would have been.

The 2008 board had it's first meeting with several interested region members on-hand to provide input and share some of their concerns with us. Remember that any Diablo member is welcome at our monthly board meetings, and if that isn't convenient you can contact any board member with your questions or concerns. Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, and the location is posted in the Advocate and on the club's event calendar.

Which reminds me, we have two Internet related changes. First, as you look through this issue you'll see we're using a new Internet domain, **diablo-pca.org**. The idea is to make it easier to reach the right person with your question or contribution, and avoid listing the personal email addresses of people doing the club's business. You can also reach our web site by using the name [www.diablo-pca.org](http://www.diablo-pca.org) if you find that easier to remember.

Second, the Diablo event calendar is on-line again! Check the club's website for a link, or type **calendar.diablo-pca.org** into your browser. This has been the subject of many, many requests from our members and I'm very happy to deliver it. All Diablo events will be listed there, and you can click a link to download individual events to your personal calendar. We'll make our best effort to keep Zone 7 events there, and we'll include other events of interest like Parade and the Monterey Historics.

That brings me to my next topic – we need more Diablo members to step forward and help deliver the events and services a region of our size should be offering. We need somebody to keep that new on-line calendar up to date, for example. See the full list of open positions in this issue of the Advocate, and if you'd like to do something that isn't on there write me a note and suggest it.

A number of things were discussed at the Zone 7 President's meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> at the Flamingo Hotel in Santa Rosa. Kurt Gibson, VP of PCA National, joined us to review insurance matters and conduct a Q&A session on ways the National organization can help the regions. Among the statistics that came out during this was the rise of the average age of PCA members over the past few years from 47, to 49, to a high of 52 this past year. I think I inadvertently volunteered for a committee to address this trend by asking what National was doing about it...

At the request of Rik Larson (Sacramento Valley Region, and Zone Rally Chair) and others, I offered our Gim-mick Rally scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> as a Zone event. Hopefully this means the Zone will be able to put together a fun series of rallies throughout the year with awards presented to the winners at next year's Zone awards dinner. But it also means our volunteer rally coordinator is going to need a lot of help, so please be sure to step forward if you're interested and able to serve as event staff or can help her organize and operate the rally.

Did everybody else catch the article in the December issue of Panorama about the Porscheplatz at the ALMS race at Laguna Seca? If you missed it go retrieve it from under the couch cushions, because our own [Ingrid and Ted French](#) are pictured along with several other Zone 7 members.

Finally – and I promise this is it! ~ please submit your nominations/votes for the following Diablo annual awards to our past president Eugenie Thomas ([pastpresident@diablo-pca.org](mailto:pastpresident@diablo-pca.org)):

Enthusiast of the Year

Family of the Year

Event of the Year

Rookie/Newcomer of the Year

We must hear from you by midnight on Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup> in order to process the results in time for our annual awards dinner, so please let us know who you think deserves to win.

That's it for this month's installment. I look forward to seeing many of you at our annual awards dinner on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

~Steve.



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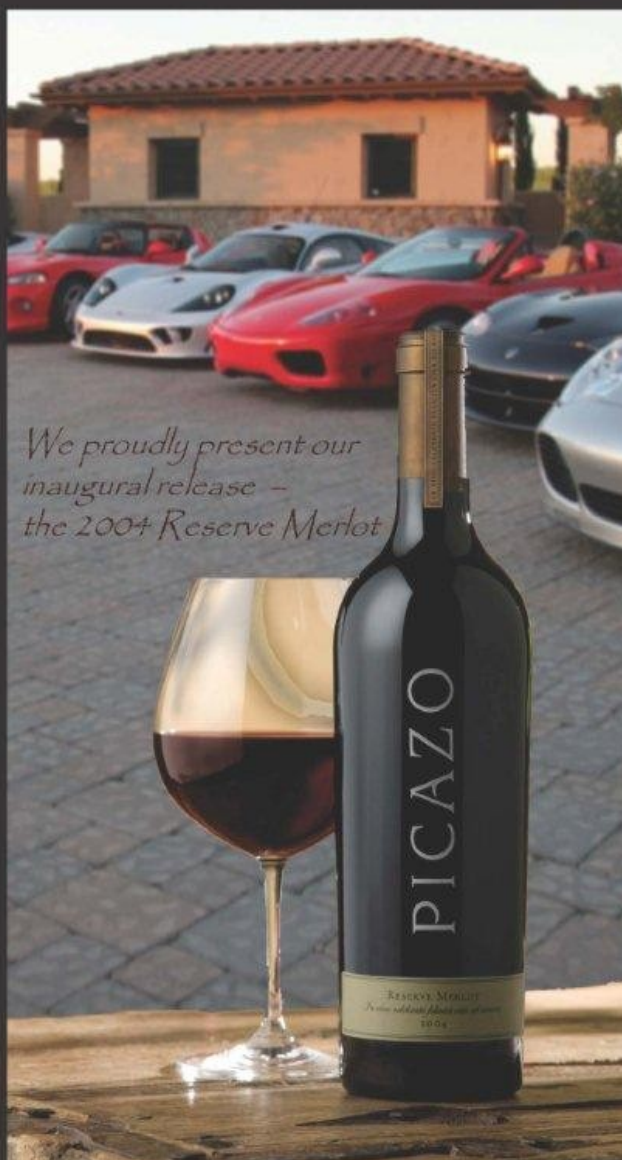




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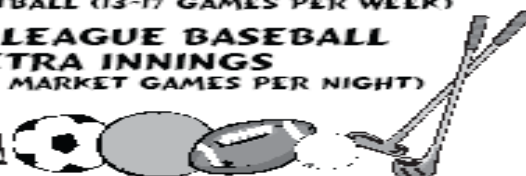
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*From the Editor- Maureen Torres*

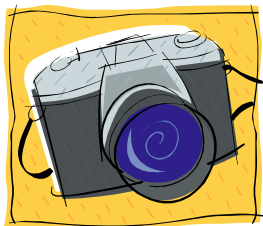


*Once again, I would like to mention that if you have any article or picture you want published in the Advocate, please contact me. This is your club, your newsletter, so share any experience you had with the members. I would love to see some great pictures! Especially if you took pictures at any event you attended. In addition, if you are selling your car, send me the ad. I will post it for you. The email address to use is:*

[advocate@diablo-pca.org](mailto:advocate@diablo-pca.org)



*Thanks!  
Maureen*



## Diablo Region Annual Photo Tour Contest

Rules for 2008, v1.0

### Summary

The annual photo tour is a contest where members submit photos of themselves and/or their cars in various cities and towns within the state of California. One photo should be submitted for each letter of the alphabet, taken in a city, town or village whose first name begins with that letter. Each photo must show the name of the town on a municipal building (see rules for details). The winner may keep the annual trophy for the rest of the calendar year in which they receive it.

### Contest Rules

#### 1. Photographs

Photographs must meet the following criteria.

1.1. Subject: Contestant or their Porsche vehicle must appear in each photograph. Porsche vehicles are those manufactured by Dr. Ing. h. c. F. Porsche AG as indicated on their build plate.

1.2. Location: The photo must show that it was taken in the specified city, town or village. This is done by either:

1.2.1. Including a municipal or quasi-governmental building in the photograph that clearly shows the name of the town on the building, or on a sign in front of the building.

Acceptable buildings include: town/city halls, post offices, police/fire stations, public works depots. Commercial businesses and places of worship are not acceptable as they are frequently named for a locale other than the one in which they are located.

1.2.2. Including a roadside sign placed by a state or local government agency that clearly indicates the name of the locality and either the elevation or population.

Example 1: A photo submitted for Townville is taken with the main post office in the background. The name "Townville" clearly shows in the lettering on the front of the building, or a free-standing sign in front of the building identifying it as the post office.

Example 2: A photo for Hamlet was taken at the village border where there is a municipal or state sign placed by the side of the road reading "Welcome to Hamlet, elevation 1,234 feet"

These are the basic's, and the full rules are posted on the Web site to view. Simply put, have your camera with you and get yourself or your Porsche in the picture when you visit any town. Make sure the name of the town is in the picture!! Have fun, and at the end of the year, let's see who gets every letter of the Alphabet covered!! You may be the one to get the Award!!



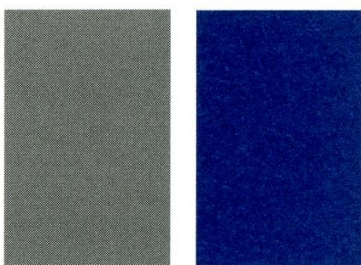
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# New Members

Chris Brannigan- 2006 911 S -Green  
Julie Choy- 2004 Boxster -Atlas Grey  
Donny Chu- 2005 911 T S -Arctic Silver  
Greg Cicatielli- 2006 911 -Seal Grey  
Jim Clennon- 2003 Boxster- Blue  
Thomas Dryden- 1999 Boxster- Artic Silver  
James Hartley- 1996 911- White  
David Lechtaler- 2006 Cayman- Silver  
Anthony Mendoza- 1990 911-Red  
Gilles Merkel- 1997 993- Black  
Bob Mull- 2002 911- Seal Grey  
Jeff Stevens- 2000 Boxster- Artic Silver  
Todd Vitzthum- 1997 993-Black  
Frank Zelinka- 1989 911 -Black

-Transfer In-

Jack W Kuhn- 1970 914-6

**Primary Members= 585**

**Affiliate Members= 424**

**Total Members= 1,009**

## Ground Breaking Four-Door GT to be Offered with Porsche Hybrid System

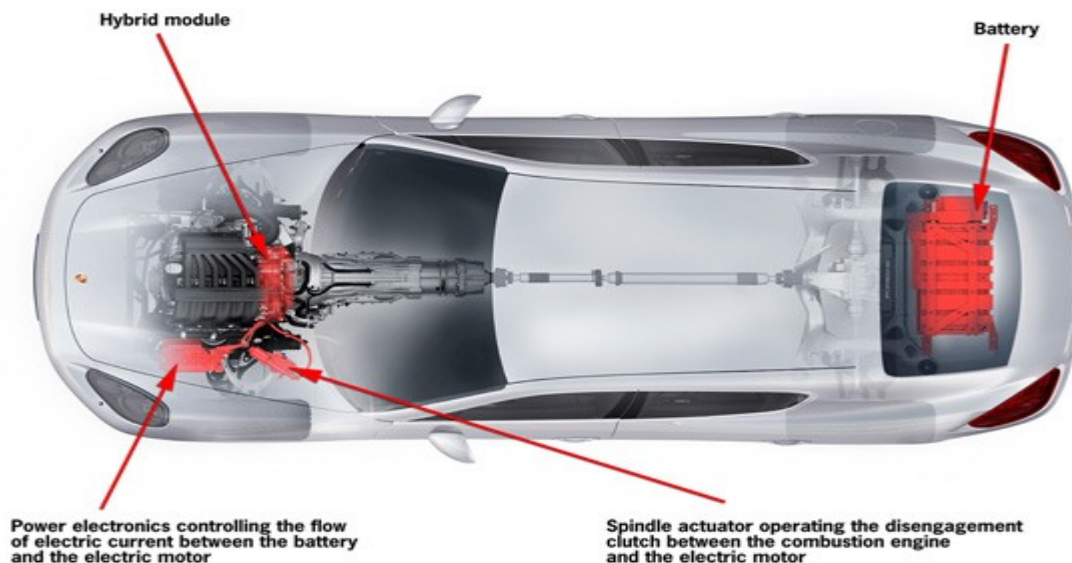
ATLANTA--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan. 7, 2008--Dr. Ing. h. c. F. Porsche AG, Stuttgart, announced today that it is developing a hybrid drive version of its highly anticipated four-door Gran Turismo. The Panamera Hybrid will utilize the same gas-electric drive concept as the Cayenne Hybrid that comes to market at the end of the decade and will claim a remarkable 30% reduction of fuel consumption.

The full parallel hybrid system of the Panamera will be configured with the battery unit positioned below the luggage compartment, and hybrid module, comprising of an additional clutch and electric motor, will be between the engine and transmission. Depending on driving conditions, the hybrid module has the ability to disengage either the combustion engine or the electric motor, or to combine both drive systems as one joint power unit. This flexibility results in benefits such as a zero emissions driving mode, fuel savings in both city and highway driving and maximum performance when desired.

The Panamera, which represents Porsche's fourth model line, will make its world debut in 2009 and promises to redefine the Gran Turismo category by featuring a unique design package that will afford equally generous front and rear space and seating comfort for four while retaining the sporting and unmistakable driving dynamics of every Porsche. Introduced initially with traditional drivetrains, the hybrid version of the Panamera will be offered at a later date.

Porsche Cars North America, Inc. (PCNA), based in Atlanta, GA, and its subsidiary, Porsche Cars Canada, Ltd., are the exclusive importers of Porsche sports cars and Cayenne sport utility vehicles for the United States and Canada. A wholly owned, indirect subsidiary of Dr. Ing. h. c. F. Porsche AG, PCNA employs approximately 250 people who provide Porsche vehicles, parts, service, marketing and training for its 212 U.S. and Canadian dealers. They, in turn, provide Porsche owners with best-in-class service.

### Panamera Hybrid



# Daytona Group Photo

*press release from Porsche Motorsport*



Twenty-eight Porsche race cars – four Daytona Prototypes powered by Porsche and 24 Porsche 911 GT3 Cup racers – got together for an early-morning group photo today at the Daytona International Speedway in preparation for the first practice session for Saturday's Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona.