

# The devil's Advocate

December, 2011





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December 2011

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 3.....Board of Directors
- 4.....Diablo Region 2011 Event Calendar
- 5.....Words From Walt
- 8.....Saturday December 3 Morning Tour Flyer
- 10.....Driver Education Program Article by Mike Roberts
- 13.....New Members
- 14.....Windmills & Canyon Tour Flyer
- 16.....Gerry McFaull Prius Win
- 17.....Playing Catch Up in Photos
- 19.....Porsches & the People Who Drive Them
- 22.....Holiday Lights Tour Flyer
- 24.....Blackhawk Museum Extravaganza Flyer
- 26.....Name Tag Form
- 27.....My First Track Experience by Ed Won
- 31.....Death Valley Tour Flyer (Loma Prieta Event)
- 32     Food & Friends
- 33     Christmas Tree Decorating & Potluck Pictures
- 34     2011 Photo Contest
- 35     Advertisers

## 2011 Diablo Region Board of Directors

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Director	Ken Wu	<a href="mailto:kw1055@gmail.com">kw1055@gmail.com</a>

### Special Advisors to the Board

Past President	Steve Jones	<a href="mailto:pastresident@diablo-pca.org">pastresident@diablo-pca.org</a>
Zone 7 Representative	Sharon Neidel	<a href="mailto:sharonneidel@yahoo.com">sharonneidel@yahoo.com</a>

### Committee Chairs and other Positions

Advertising Chair	Ingrid Plooy	<a href="mailto:advertising@diablo-pca.org">advertising@diablo-pca.org</a>
Calendar	Kathy Soler	<a href="mailto:calendar@diablo-pca.org">calendar@diablo-pca.org</a>
Charity Coordinator	Ingrid French	<a href="mailto:charitychair@diablo-pca.org">charitychair@diablo-pca.org</a>
Chief Instructor	Scott Pope	<a href="mailto:chiefinstructor@diablo-pca.org">chiefinstructor@diablo-pca.org</a>
Event Chair	Jacquie Lietz	<a href="mailto:events@diablo-pca.org">events@diablo-pca.org</a>
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DE Chair	Mike Roberts	<a href="mailto:trackchair@diablo-pca.org">trackchair@diablo-pca.org</a>
Track Registrar	Mike Ciopyk	<a href="mailto:trackregistrar@diablo-pca.org">trackregistrar@diablo-pca.org</a>
Webmaster	Steve Jones	<a href="mailto:webmaster@diablo-pca.org">webmaster@diablo-pca.org</a>
Breakfast Hosts	Doug Wiebe	Host
	Satoshi Iwahashi	Host
	Phil Eskildsen	Host

Mailing Address: Diablo/PCA  
P O Box 1047  
Livermore, Ca 94551-1047

## DIABLO REGION EVENT CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

Dec 3 Saturday Morning Tour

Dec 10 Windmills & Canyon tour

Dec 17 Holiday Lights Tour

### JANUARY

Jan 22, 2012 > Black Hawk Museum Extravagnza

Check for details for events on the web site calendar at <http://diablo-pca.org/>

### OTHER EVENTS

The 2012 Calendar of Events will appear in the next issue of the devil's Advocate. Be prepared to sign up for some exciting events. Don't wait until the last minute—you just might miss the fun!



## Words From Walt By Walt Lietz, President

Wow, it looks like we are ending 2011 with a bang! I want to wish all our members a happy holiday season and let's count our blessings one more time.

First, on a personal note, Jacquie has finished her last chemo treatment just before Thanksgiving - so we should be back to touring any time now! Secondly the club is in the best shape ever.

We have a great 2012 plan for tours, events, and driver education.

Financially the Diablo Region is doing very well.

Our member count is at a record high with 1,009 members.

Our October DE event had over 40 drivers show up on a weekday.

We donated over \$1,000 to charities.

Let us start with our 2012 planning session. Over 30 members showed up to plan our calendar and enjoyed Rocco's pizza. We filled the weekends very quickly including some really great two day tours. Last year's sold out Tour de San Juan is on again, our James Dean/Cambria tour is back after a one year absence, and new tours to Grass Valley and the Mario Andretti Winery are being planned. There are 35 Diablo events already scheduled for 2012. We are planning three driver education events as well. Thanks to all of you who attended and are taking the lead on tours and DE.

Speaking of Driver Education the club has a new DE Chairperson. **Mike Roberts** has agreed to take over the role and has already worked with **Carlos Bocanegra** and **Luis Soler** to coordinate our 2012 program. Special thanks to Carlos for all he accomplished in 2011 under difficult circumstances. The program really grew and we had over 40 members show up at Thunderhill on a Thursday in late October for our last DE of the year. If you have not tried driving a DE course, check it out. Talk to Mike or Carlos, and sign up for the next DE day! Your Porsche was built to run at high speed, corner tight turns and brake on a dime, so go for it!

Your Membership Chairperson, **Doug Wiebe**, continued to build on our 2010 success and has grown

Diablo's total members to over 1,000. He follows up with new members, and with members that transfer into Diablo. He also contacts members that have not renewed. Doug makes sure each person knows about the events and opportunities available with our club. This year Doug started using evite online to make sure all new members are reminded of upcoming events. This effort really paid off as many new members showed up for the Family Picnic and Oktoberfest. Great job Doug!

Halfway through 2011 **Ingrid Plooy** volunteered to become our Advertising Chairperson. After contacting our major supporters she has drafted a new ad rate schedule and new rules for our event sponsors. The new rates were approved by the board in November and will take effect on January 1. We will also print a smaller version of the Advocate for distribution to our advertisers. The Advocate will be displayed at their place of business. The increase in our rates will offset the cost of producing these printed copies. Thank you Ingrid!

The club's financial strength is excellent thanks in large part to our Treasurer, **Kathy Soler**. She has collected and reported payments on all events and tracked the budgets for DE. Her reports are always available online at our web-site. As of November we have over two years of reserves in our treasury accounts. Thank\$, Kathy!

**Phil Eskildsen** (aka The Nametag Guy), is taking on an additional role as Diablo Tech Chairperson. Phil has already put five Tech Sessions on our 2012 calendar. I believe this will be a very valuable part of our educational effort. We all need to know more about the care and feeding of these great machines. Porsche North America, as well as our local dealers, are working along the same lines in 2012. This is another great idea from Phil.

We have all heard that "It's not about the cars - It's about the people!" and nowhere is it more true than in our charitable donations. Our Charity Chairperson, **Ingrid French**, has helped raise over \$1,000 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, which included a considerable contribution from our National PCA. She has also provided school bags for Contra Costa County Social Services, Ready to Learn project and holiday toys for Families First of Contra Costa County. Thanks Ingrid, you

Continued from Page 5

truly care about helping others. Your work makes us a better club.

I want to thank all the members who have made my job as Diablo President fun, rewarding, and educational for two years. All our past presidents, including **Brian Cameron, Jack Carpenter, Ted French, Steve Jones, Bill Packwood, Patrick Schmidt** and **Eugenie Thomas** have helped in so many ways. Our board of directors always worked hard on all club efforts, particularly **Kay Maloy** as Secretary, editor of the Advocate and DE supporter, and **Jacque Lietz** as Social Chairperson. Other members I have to thank are: **Brian Adkins** - Wash n Shine Head Judge, **Elsie Lum** - The Family Picnic, **Ingrid French** - Tour Chairperson, **Ira Madnick** - Pleasanton Breakfasts, and many, many more.

Our sponsors supported us with facilities, expertise, and financial aid. Gunther Feldmeier at Porsche of Fremont, EMC, Porsche of Livermore, and Kahlers of Dublin provided the club with tremendous support in 2011.

It has been a great year, thanks and enjoy the holidays!

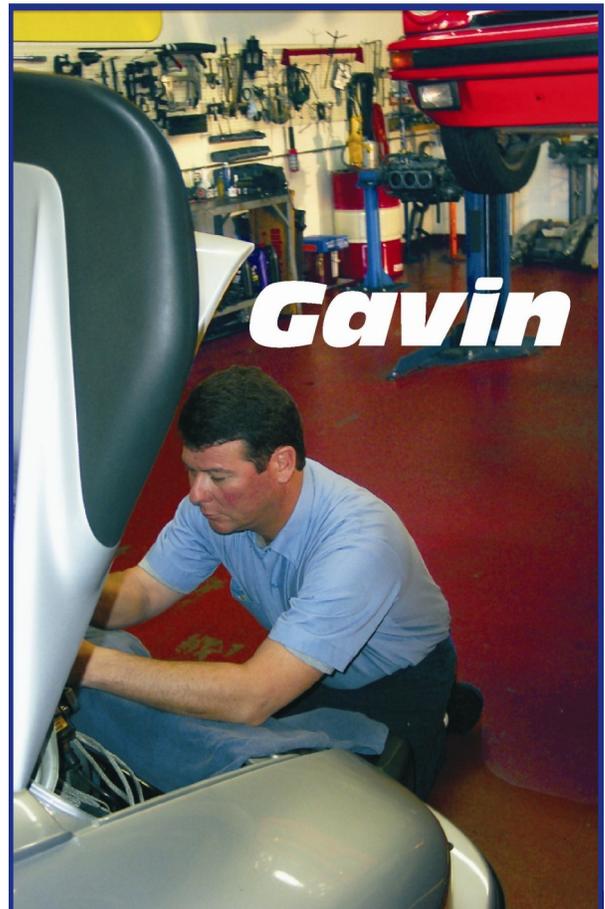
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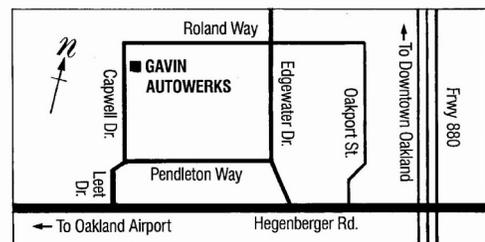


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Friday	9am-8pm
Saturday	9am-8pm
Sunday	11am-7pm



**Diablo Region Saturday Drive December 3 2011  
Led by Pat and Linda Schmidt**

Leaving Buttercup Pantry at 9:30 AM after Breakfast. Travel some great Bay Area Back Roads and arrive at Elliston Vineyards around Noon. If it is a rainy day, we will head down I-680 to Dublin and browse the inventory of Kassabian Motors and visit the Arlen Ness Motorcycle Museum and Showroom. Then head over to the Holiday in the Vineyards celebration at Elliston. After Elliston, folks are free to enjoy the other wineries listed below. No Cost for the event. Preregistration, not necessary.

Holidays in the Vineyards is an annual wine country tradition where wineries showcase their tasting rooms with arts and craft vendors, special wines, festive activities, santa visits, carolers, and more.



**We look forward to ringing in the Holiday Season with you in Livermore Valley Wine Country.**

**This is not a ticketed event; however Tasting Fees may apply and vary by winery.**

Holidays in the Vineyards

Date: Saturday, December 3 & Sunday, December 4

Time: 12-5pm

Cost: Tasting fee varies by winery

Location: Participating Livermore Valley Winery Tasting Rooms:

**Participating wineries include:**

Bent Creek Winery, Big White House, Bodegas Aguirre Winery, Cedar Mountain Winery, Charles R Vineyards, Chouinard Vineyards, Concannon Vineyard, Crooked Vine Winery, Cuda Ridge Wines, Darcie Kent Vineyards, Eagle Ridge Vineyard, el Sol Winery, Elliston Vineyards, Fenestra Winery, Garré Vineyard & Winery, John Evan Cellars, La Rochelle Winery, Las Positas Vineyards, Les Chênes Estate Vineyards, Longevity Wines, McGrail Vineyards & Winery, Mitchell Katz Winery, Murrieta's Well, Nottingham Cellars, Occasio Winery, Page Mill Winery, Retzlaff Estate Winery, Rios-Lovell Winery, Rodrigue Molyneaux Winery, Ruby Hill Winery, Stony Ridge Winery, Tamás Estates, The Singing Winemaker, The Steven Kent Winery, Thomas Coyne Winery, Wentz Vineyards, Westover Winery & Event Center, White Crane Winery, Wood Family Vineyards



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As the new Driver Education Chair for Diablo Region I'm excited to talk about our successes, our focus and some ideas for the program going forward. I'm taking up the reins from **Carlos Bocanegra** who led us in providing high quality, safe and fun events in 2011. We owe him our thanks.

**By Mike Roberts**

Pivotal to our success is a willing team who offer experience and ideas, then help plan and execute. They include Carlos, Mike Ciopyk, Adam Cipriano, Tom Davenport, Kay Maloy, Mike McDonald, Dale Miller, Tom Marinshaw, Luis Soler, Jerry Torres, Doug Weibe and Ken Wu. We have experienced, effective and much appreciated instructors, led by Scott Pope, who work hard to bring learning and fun to our on-track sessions. If you are interested in Driver Education, lending a hand in planning, managing events or taking part, we would like to hear from you. Feel free to email me at [trackchair@diablo-pca.org](mailto:trackchair@diablo-pca.org) and I'll add you to our growing email list where we talk about ideas to develop the program, event organization and generally swap information.

Our last day out was at Thunderhill on 10/27. We had an enthusiastic turnout and a glorious, dry day in the mid 70's. There was plenty of room in all of the run groups (drivers are organized in groups based on experience, so new people to the track run at different times from regulars who may drive much faster). Diablo PCA Driver Education days are unique opportunities for our members, we run fewer cars on track at one time than many other HPDE events, which means drivers have plenty of space. Our events are relaxed and friendly gatherings of people who enjoy getting together to share the experience.

For many of us, the Driver Education Program feeds a fascination for Porsche cars that you can never fully experience on the road, no matter how good or fast a driver you think you are. The car takes on a new and beguiling personality. Things which frustrate on the road become different on the track. For instance, my 997S's occasionally clunky gear change becomes magically slick and easy.

"Perhaps, as a region, our Driver's Education mission should be 'to sponsor safe & controlled activities where PCA Diablo members can have fun exploring the capabilities of their cars, learn valuable driving skills and enjoy a shared experience with friends'."

My personal fascination with Porsche and enthusiastic driving began over 35 years ago, growing up in rural Wales (in the UK) campaigning a highly modified VW Beetle (a 'wannabee' Porsche) in rally events run in the early hours on secluded back roads! I studied the development of Porsche although it was a few years later when I realized my dream, when in 1992 I bought a 1988 Carrera Targa Sport. I still remember receiving a serious slapping from my wife...she knew I was thinking about 'new' car, but I hadn't told her what or when until I arrived home with it one evening. The Porsche brand always has stirred emotions!

As an incentive to buy the car, the dealership offered instruction time with an expert in defensive and performance driving and an ex-Porsche works driver. I vividly recall my first instruction day, driving at the test track in the morning and then 200 miles through some of the UK's best driving roads with him as co-pilot. That was my first introduction to Driver's Education!

To this day, I still practice the techniques I learned. The concept of 'always having an exit route' has saved me from both freeway dangers and potential in-town mishaps. (Wherever you have to stop on the road, whether in town or on the Freeway, you always have a place to go if things behind you get ugly).

Later, I was lucky enough to take part in McLaren driver education days (yes, the F1 Grand Prix team)! The most memorable included two 45 minute sessions lapping the Silverstone Grand Prix Circuit in my Porsche, autocross in Caterham Sevens, short circuit in race prepped VW Golfs, laps in the McLaren F1 driven

by Jonathan Palmer (ex F1 driver and McLaren test driver), an open wheelers session, off road driving in awd's and a helicopter ride around the circuit. With all of this you would think I would be a better driver!

Closer to home, Driver's Education (from the PCA National Website) is intended to 'heighten the Porsche owning and driving experience'. Perhaps, as a region, our Driver's Education mission should be "to sponsor safe & controlled activities where PCA Diablo members can have fun exploring the capabilities of their cars, learn valuable driving skills and enjoy a shared experience with friends". Our members should see these events as **THE** place to exercise their Porsche and to appreciate the qualities of these unique cars.

Which brings me to the future...all of us who participate in the Driver's Education Program want to see it grow and thrive, meet the needs of Club members and continue to build a community of common interest and learning. In 2012 we will continue regular visits to local racetracks, taking advantage of our location in between Thunderhill, Infineon and Laguna Seca. We are planning days at Thunderhill on March 16<sup>th</sup> and October 29<sup>th</sup>, with more to come.

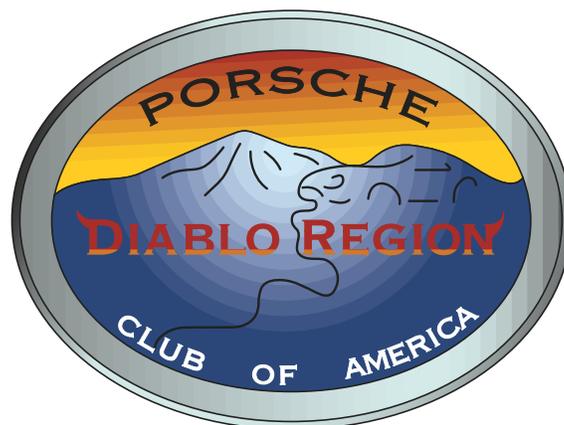
Asking members what they would like to see going forward is very important. We have had many requests for events which may be 'halfway' between road and track. Many Clubs provide 'car control clinics' – which combine advanced driving with accident avoidance techniques. We have also been asked how we can provide 'learning opportunities' wrapped around meetings or breakfasts. We will look at all possibilities that are practical, supported and that we can afford.

Also, I had a long conversation with Pete Tremper, the National PCA Driver Education Chair, a really helpful guy, and I hope to establish a regular dialogue so we can learn what other Regions are doing and how they are doing it.

Overall, the challenge is to develop Driver Education into an annual program which appeals to the new driver through to the most advanced and has broader appeal to the Diablo membership. It's not an easy goal, but if we can offer a range of opportunities to 'drive the car in the way Stuttgart intended it to be driven', we'll get there.

By the way, if you are interested in learning more about performance driving, try reading the 'Porsche High-Performance Driving Handbook' by Vic Elford, which is also a glance into Porsche racing and rallying history. For those who might want to get more technical, 'Going Faster', by the Skip Barber School is a classic. Sad to say, they are both on my bedside table. The stuff of dreams!

We would like to thank the sponsors of our last Driver Education Event of 2011 at Thunderhill, Porsche of Fremont. We appreciate their consistent support of our Club. Also, both Porsche of Fremont and Kahlers for providing fun, friendly and informative tech inspections in the run-up to our event.



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# New Members

## New Members

Govett, William R. Sandy Govett, Family Member	2011 Cayman, Brown
East, Aaron J. Kimberly East, Family Member	2004 C4S, Gray
Jones, Melissa K.	2006 Cayenne, Black
Tom, Glenn A.	2001 911 Turbo, White
West, Cal	2008 Cayman S, Silver

## New Members Total: 5

## New Transfer In Members

Mathiesen, Espen R. <i>Transfer from Central California Coast (CCC)</i>	1977 911 S, White
Pierce, Chuck Jennifer Pierce, Family Member <i>Transfer from Yosemite (YOS)</i>	2003 Boxster S, Green
Shin, James <i>Transfer from Northern New Jersey (NNJ)</i>	1985 911, Black 2010 911

## New Transfer In Members Total: 3

Primary Members: 591  
 Affiliate Members: 417  
 Total Members: 1008

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**Fremont—510.797.9000**  
 2740 Mowry Avenue, Fremont

# Windmills and Canyon Tour

Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Led by Lillie Echevarria & Bela Privari



**Join us for the last day tour of 2011!!!**

**We will depart from Vic's All Star Kitchen (201 Main St, Pleasanton) at 9:30 a.m.** and drive thru the Altamont and Patterson Pass to admire the windmills in action. The route will provide for many twisties and hills.

The Altamont Wind Farms have the largest concentration of wind turbines in the world with approximately 5,000 turbines!! They were installed after the 1970's energy crisis in response to favorable tax policies for investors.

Afterwards, we will stop around 10:30-11 at Porsche Livermore (3100 Las Positas Road) for a **complimentary light breakfast and technical Q&A**. You can send your questions beforehand to Manni Viana (Shop Foreman) at [mviana@livermoreporsche.com](mailto:mviana@livermoreporsche.com)

We will then continue our tour through the canyons of the Tri-Valley with a final stop at Casa Orozco (Dublin, CA) around 1:30 pm to enjoy lunch on your own.

While there is no cost for this tour, we would like to provide a headcount to the dealer for the breakfast.

RSVP to Lillie Echevarria at [lillie62peru@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lillie62peru@sbcglobal.net) by no later than Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. See you then!

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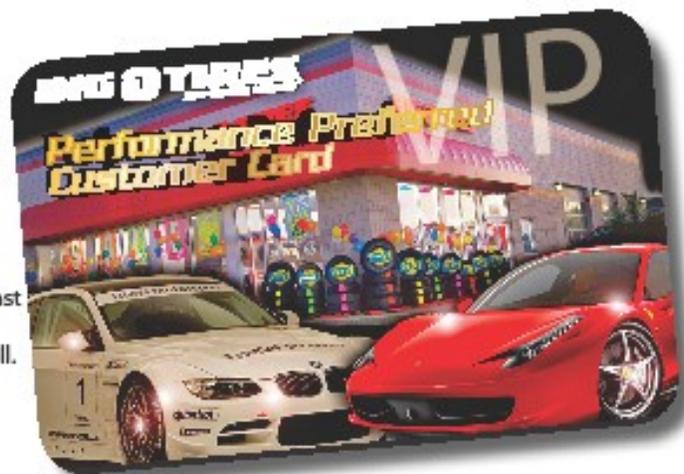
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In September, our own Gerry McFaul won the 100 mile per hour speed group at the Silver State Classic in his Prius, YES in his Prius! He covered 90 miles at an average speed of 99.983 MPH. WOW! He's working on a plan to run in the Big Bend Open Road Race in April 2012. We expect a similar performance. What food do you feed those squirrels under the hood? Congratulations!!

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 LC# 889715

## Playing Catch-up in Photos

During the year we have had many events and have not always been able to publish all the pictures in an issue of the Advocate right after the event took place. We will be placing the photos on the web site for your leisurely viewing pleasure, but here are some that warrant publishing now. I hope you were able to join the fun. Enjoy!



Paula Ciopyk slicing her creation for the John Place BBQ & Tour



Walt Lietz inching his way to the desserts



The gang posing before they rush in to the tasting room at Castillo di Amoroso



Joe (the smiling gent on the right) was the super tour guide during our romp through the castle



The elegant tasting hall to sample 5 different and yummy wines



The view from the castle into Napa Valley is AWESOME!

Pictures provided by Walt Lietz and Dan Spisak.



### Meet Patrick Schmidt

#### 1. How long have you been a PCA member?

I have been a member of the PCA for 25 years! In GE they called that the Quarter Century Club.

#### 2. What first interested you in Porsche?

I was blown away by the PORSCHE 917s that raced in the Can Am Series at Donnebrook in Brainerd, Minnesota in 1972. Amazing! I also had several cousins on the East Coast that owned 911s. They cherished their Porsches. I became quite an admirer of Porsches.

#### 3. What was your first Porsche and why did you purchase it?

When we first moved to California in 1983, I knew I wanted a sports car and searched out a Porsche that I could afford (while raising three children). I wanted a fun car that I could use as a daily driver—Porsche. Engineered for Magic. Every day. I found an original owner of a 1972 Porsche 914 that worked for Berkey Porsche of Pleasanton. She had all the service records and working for a Porsche Dealer, she had every service as scheduled. The 914 had 95,000 miles on it and it ran great. I read an article in the Panorama about tracking your Porsche that suggested you could either buy a full blown race car and work to get your skills up to the Porsche's capabilities or you could buy a "Street" Porsche and make small improvements over time and build your skills with each improvement. That was the route that I chose as I started my 17 years in Autocrossing. Great fun!

In 1999, my son, Justin, was rear ended by a 1983 Chrysler who was in a high speed chase by CHP in San Francisco. Justin was at a stop light and the Chrysler was not slowing down, but just changing lanes at 45 mph when the front third of the Chrysler hit the back half of the 914. One quarter of the driver's side rear wheel was dented by the impact. The mid-engine design by Porsche helped absorb the impact and Justin walked away from the accident with no injuries. The insurance company called me and said they were having a difficult time reading the odometer - it read 7,000 miles. They asked - "Is that

really 7,000 miles?" I said, "No. That is 307,000 miles." They said - "We probably cannot pay you anything for that car." I responded that "If I need to buy a replacement, I would show them what it is worth." After several conversations with Bruce Anderson and confirming a few comparable sales by Sergio Meza, the insurance company paid me one-third more than I paid for the car 17 years earlier and after adding over 200,000 miles! Porsche. Engineered for magic. Every day! Linda, my spouse, said "As long as you can take the top off the next one, let's get another Porsche!" We found a second owner ready to part with her 911 Carrera Targa - European, Slate Grey.

#### 4. What are your interests (hobbies)?

Driving; Going to the local race events at Sears Point and Laguna Seca; photographing my car in amazing places. I really enjoy helping the Diablo Region by leading Day and overnight tours, attending events and meeting the new and active members of the PCA.

#### 5. What type of work do you do and if you are retired, what did you do?

I am presently the Associate Director of Human Resources for the Archdiocese of San Francisco. As BART, from Dublin, is a really easy commute, I now can enjoy my Carrera as a fun car on the weekends and do not need to sit in first-gear traffic very often.

#### 6. What is your current Porsche?

We have a 1984 Carrera, Targa, and European that has been a great car. Today, that Porsche has over 250,00 miles and is running strong.

#### 7. What do you like about your Porsche?

Everything. The previous owner was married to a guy who had a Mercedes AMG and he said they should get a little more horsepower out of the European Carrera that came to the states with 231 HP and 10.3 to 1 Compression Ratio. They had a Flowmaster exhaust system made for the Carrera that really adds a nice tone as well as a few more horsepower. At 2700 lbs., the extra horsepower power is evident. I have not found a hill yet that the Carrera knows it is

*Continued from Page 19*  
Climbing!

**8. What options do you wish it included?**

None. The full, top off feature of the 1984 Targa is great. Full view, open air. In this part of California, that is all you need! I love the Porsche Short Shift, the Turbo Tie Rods that I upgraded to as well as the Flowmaster, exhilarating tone and the ability to have great fun enjoying the Bay Area Canyon roads on a regular basis.

**9. Is this your daily driver?**

Yes!

**10. If not, when do you drive it?**

When I teach a few MBA courses at Golden Gate University, I drive to San Francisco and put up with the first and second gear driving during morning rush hour. But in the evening, leaving San Francisco at 9:30 PM, I am back to Dublin in 30 minutes! Beyond my teaching evenings in the City, I enjoy Porsche Breakfast with our Porsche Friends on Saturday mornings in Walnut Creek (or Pleasanton on the Second and Fourth Saturdays).

**11. What type of driving do you like to do (i.e. spirited, country winding roads, long interstate trips)?**

If you know of some the Tours that I have enjoyed leading, you will probably know that I love the Canyon Roads: Morgan Territory Road; Redwood Road; Polomares Canyon Road; Peachy Canyon Road, Hwy 25 (to Paso Robles). On my home from San Francisco, I frequently get off of I-580 at 35th Avenue in Oakland to head to Skyline Drive and Redwood Road for a 12 mile stretch of two lane road with no cross streets to get to Castro Valley with minimum traffic. Jut a nice "commute."

**12. What activities do you enjoy doing with the Diablo Region?**

Everything. Diablo Region is great Region. Linda and I have enjoyed parties at members' homes, hosting parties at our home, destination tours, holiday parties. It is a great region and those who participate know that.

**13. Is there any particular event that stands out as most enjoyable and why?**

Yes. Linda and I lead a tour to Newlan Winery and Far Niente Winery in 1988. Bruce Newlan was a

member of Diablo Region and invited us to a wine tasting at Newlan Winery in Napa. As one of my first events, I booked the tasting at Newlan and asked the Director of Events if she had any other wineries she would recommend. Far Niente was the place she last worked at and she gave me the contact name. We booked the tour and 35 cars made the tour to Newlan and Far Niente Wineries. At Gil Nichol's Far Niente Winery, we not only got a tour of the Winery, but also a tour of his Carriage House with some of Gil's incredible cars. Thank you, again Gil.

**14. Is there any activity the Diablo Region does not provide that you would like to do?**

No. The planning meeting at Walt and Jacquie's home seemed to cover many of the aspects of the PCA that Linda and I enjoy. I try to do a few tours or help others put on the tours that they are interested in. After doing four tours in 2010, I was totally surprised and grateful to get the award for "Enthusiast of the year - 2010."

**15. If you could have any Porsche, what would it be and why?**

The Carrera GT has been a dream car of mine since it was introduced. Mr. John Place has been such a gracious member of the Diablo Region that I have seen his Porsche Carrera GT up close. Amazing! I love the technology, features and sound of the GT. Yes. That would be my dream car. Thank you for the opportunity to respond to these questions. Linda and I enjoy the camaraderie of the Diablo Region and hope that other Porsche enthusiasts say connected and continue to enjoy the Magic Everyday!

Auf Wiedersehen!



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## HOLIDAY LIGHTS TOUR



**WHEN:** Saturday, December 17

**TIME:** 5:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Ted and Ingrid French Home  
1107 Delta Way, Danville

**COST:** \$10 per person

**Make your check payable to Diablo PCA and mail to:  
Diablo PCA, PO Box 1047, Livermore, CA 94551-1047**

**Food, soft drinks and water will be provided. Bring your own  
adult beverages.**

**RSVP: Ted & Ingrid French at:  
925-837-8545 or at: [IngridLFrench@gmail.com](mailto:IngridLFrench@gmail.com)**

**Deadline: December 10th**

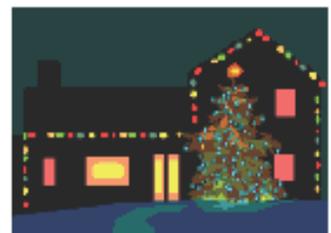
The evening begins with hearty appetizers and then a tour of the lights in San Ramon, returning to the French home for desserts and a "White Elephant" gift exchange.

**What is a "White Elephant"?** It is something you already have around the house (do not go out and buy something). It does not need to be car related, should be suitable for either a man or woman and should be wrapped. The exchange is optional and you do not have to participate if you don't want to. So, if you do not bring a gift, you will not be getting one.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take the Sycamore Valley Road east exit off of 680. Take the first right onto Camino Ramon (Best Western Hotel) continue on and turn left on El Capitan (the stop light). Delta Way is the first right and our house is the first one on the left.



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# Blackhawk Museum Extravaganza

**Date:** Sunday, January 22, 2012

**Time:** 11AM—3PM (May enter at 10AM to view cars)

**Location:** Blackhawk Museum  
3700 Blackhawk Plaza, Danville

**Cost:** \$35 per person for Diablo Members & 1 guest (subsidized by Diablo PCA)

**\$65 per person for Non-Diablo Members**

Come join us for our annual awards party and enjoy the event while nestled amongst a multitude of exceptional, one-of-a-kind automobiles.

Included:

- A special display of Porsches on the Plaza  
(Please let Jacquie Lietz know if you would like your car displayed on the plaza. A committee will choose up to 40 cars. Cars will be parked beginning at 9:30AM)
- Docents to provide guided tours of the Museum
- A gourmet luncheon catered by Scott's Catering
- No Host Bar (No outside alcohol allowed)
- Door Prizes
- David Ray from Hooked on Driving (and Diablo member) as our Guest Speaker
- A chance to heckle/congratulate your friends as they receive their awards.

## **Luncheon Menu:**

Mixed Green Salad

Cheese Tortellini

Carved Prime Rib

Salmon

Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

Dessert and Coffee

**Get your reservation in NOW-it will truly be our extravaganza of the year!**

Make your checks payable to Diablo PCA and mail to:  
Diablo PCA, PO Box 1047, Livermore, Ca 94551-1047.

Please RSVP to Jacquie Lietz at  
[ihl\\_online@yahoo.com](mailto:ihl_online@yahoo.com) or 925-256-7620  
by January 12, 2012.





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## NAME TAG ORDER FORM



If you are interested in ordering a nametag, please fill in the following information. Nametags are mailed from our vendor and usually arrive within 10-15 business days. It's always nice to have your nametag on when attending events so everyone can put a name with a face. We also have periodic drawings at our breakfast and other events for those who are wearing their nametags.

Please enclose a check made out to "PCA-Diablo" and mail to:

Phil Eskildsen  
1028 Miller Avenue  
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Our new nametag now has an attractive brushed aluminum background with black letters and logo along with "Since 1984" to recognize our 25 years as a PCA Region. All nametags are now furnished with magnetic clasps to avoid garment damage.

Magnetic nametags are \$11.00 each

Name(s) to be engraved on tag(s):

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\_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed tags to:

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number for questions: \_\_\_\_\_

# My First Track Experience

By Ed Won

Like many new members who hear about the Track DE days, I used to think to myself, that sounds fun but it seem like a lot of work to drive a few laps along with the extra wear and tear on the car. I found every excuse I can think of; it's held on Thursdays; I can't pass inspection; I need new tires; I'll get sick; I don't know where Willows is. Now that I've been to Thunderhill, I'm very glad to report that it's all out the window now that I've been to the Thunderhill DE.

But how did I go from being a member of breakfast crowd with excellent fork control to the track crowd developing car control? It was a number of small steps that I credit my Diablo PCA friends with. I am a believer of the club slogan- **'It's not just the cars, it's the people'**.

The first step: I would encourage all new members to try other club activities and get to know other members even if you don't think you would be good at it. I started small with the club breakfast, I know how to eat. And I'm quite good at it... too good. And that expanded to the club tours and other activities. You meet a member here and member there.

The second step: make instant PCA friends by asking (Badgering) your Porsche owning friends to join Diablo PCA. Thanks Wayne Beumer for seeing it my way. Wayne originally told me he wasn't all that interested in track days. Wayne and I attended a Porsche Road show event that included a small auto cross course and a larger course which started changing our minds. I'm warming up to the track idea now but still not ready.

In the summer, I met Kelly Guglielmo on one of our tours. While on a rest stop break, she was asking Lou about her experience tracking her Carrera at Thunderhill. That caught my attention since I knew nothing about the track. I noticed immediately how she was excited talking about the track and seemed to have a passion for it. I met more than a few people that said "yes it's really fun. You should do it." It's different when you hear someone talk about it with passion. I must check this DE thing out at least once. Thank you Kelly.

I met Ed and Ciril Donnelly at the new member picnic and saw them again at the Oktoberfest event. We discussed the Thunderhill DE event with Wayne as well and decided we should all go. We took the recommendation to book a room the night before so you are not up extra early driving to Willows to then drive the entire day. Good Call.

Now that we have the reservations booked, on to the next unknown, tech session. I printed out the forms as requested and showed up at Kahlers for the free inspection. I saw Wayne, Carlos and Brian Adkins. Then thought who are all these others guys? It seems each club activity draws a core group of members. Now it's time for breakfast guy to spread out among the track guys. You line up as they hoist your car in to the air for the rather thorough inspection. I'm still on the cars first set of tires and was ready for the bad news that I needed a number of things replaced. I quickly forgot all of that as I ate the free pizza. As I was eating I heard a crash, no it wasn't the car it was Wayne knocking the veggie pizza over. Thank goodness it was the veggie and not the meat ones.

I was happy and quite surprised when they handed the form to me and said, "Pass". Wayne on the other hand, found out he had a blister on the sidewall of his tire and needed to be replaced. This is a case where a track inspection paid off for daily driving. That blister could have caused a blowout during normal day to day driving.

I couldn't wait for the Wednesday work day to be over so I could drive up to Willows. It seemed to have gone by extra slow. But I eventually headed for the hotel, checked in and met my friends and the DE group for dinner at Farwood Bar and Grill. Good food and good times. Now for a good night's sleep.

I met the Donnelly's for breakfast and headed off to the track which is about 15 minutes away. You sign in and look for a stall to camp out. Being new I brought as little as I could. Man, was I wrong! I should have brought everything: chairs, extra food, tools etc. Looking around I was wondering if some of these folks will be staying overnight. Really! Bring what you want and dump it in your stall. You'll empty your car anyway. Leave the BBQ grill at home, right Carlos?

We lined our cars up and waited for the final inspection and collection of our tech forms.

At 8:00am we met for the drivers' meeting and went through the flags and the track turns. By this time, my short term memory was near full and I started to fade. I must admit at that time talk of turn 5 and turn 7 were just numbers and talk of the water towers were not really registering. But then the first group had gone out and you can hear the scream of the flat six and whistling of the air as they passed the meeting room. WOW!! I want to get out there now. At the conclusion of the meeting, we got our packet with wrist bands and numbers for the windshields.

I met Ken Wu as my first instructor for two sessions. Ken's style was good for me initially because I needed the extra instructions and I'm glad he can talk the entire time because I needed it. As we headed out on the track, there were so many things to look out for: flag stations, cones and obviously the track. There were so many things going on, I forgot to shift a few times and eventually found I can just leave it in 3<sup>rd</sup> and circle the track. That will be my shameful secret. Actually, I either forgot or shifted late and was reaching down to shift when Ken catches me and says, "Hands on the wheel 10 and 2". Its better I leave it in 3<sup>rd</sup>, and not care about being fast...yet. And you shouldn't. **Don't feel the pressure to go fast; it's not what it's about. You are learning car control.** And the truth is, most of us are not driving prodigies and even if we are, you are way too old to start a racing career. Now that the racing fantasy is out of the way, let's review reality.

After the two runs, we went to the whiteboard for a final review. Ken was going through the whiteboard and turns to me and said, "Why don't I show you?" I foolishly agreed. We headed out in Ken's Car. And I observed his lines. He started going faster and faster. Ken tells me "Let me know when it's too fast". Ok. The G's started to build; I didn't know I signed up for a NASA pilot test program. WOW! I have to admit I never told him to slow down because the speed was so fun. Maybe that can be me someday.

I was so overwhelmed with information I was looking for water towers and couldn't see them because I wasn't looking over the horizon. By the end of the second session I was still trying to absorb all the information. I questioned if I was having fun. I talked to my fellow friends and newbies to check if they were having the same experience. I was surprised that they were. Edward and Wayne also circled the track in 3<sup>rd</sup> gear. Now I can lift my head up, thanks guys. Edward also did not want to go faster and needed more time to settle like me. I was so glad I'm not the only one who felt this way.

*Continued from Page 28*

We had a long lunch and talk trading notes, etc. The track started to sear into memories and we can now talk intelligently about the turns. I now knew what Kelly was asking Lou. I get it now.

We relaxed and got ready for the 3<sup>rd</sup> session; my instructor was actually Edward's previous instructor, Tom. Tom has a totally different style. He asked me what I would like. I told him, maybe it's now time for me to take what I absorbed and try it myself. Please intervene if you need to. Tom said, "I'll be low key" and he was. Things started to click and now I'm starting to have fun.

I met my instructor for the 4<sup>th</sup> session (I can't remember his name) and he let me run about 5 laps on my own before he started commenting. This was good as I was starting to see where I went wrong and he confirmed it all for me. I started to pick up speed as well and came upon Edward who waved me by him. By this time, I was pointing at the flag stations and settled down. In fact, when I looked up to see the checker flag, it wasn't turbo waving the flag it was Edward's wife, Ciril waving the checkered flag. I recorded it all on my Contour GPS camera. It was the best to get a clip where all my friends participated. I guess... I omitted the part when Wayne passed me. Good Job Wayne. Did my friends enjoy their day? Edward purchased a helmet, he'll be back.

Thank you for reading my first track day experience, the day had its highs and lows but in the end it ended on a high note due in part to the experience with my friends. I encourage you all to try a DE day if you haven't before and bring a PCA buddy. (Your Buddy doesn't have to drive to support you) If you don't have a PCA buddy make one, there a lot of great people I've met in the 10 months I've joined the club. Now, I can't wait for the next DE day.

**Check Your Calendars and Sign Up for  
Upcoming Events TODAY!**



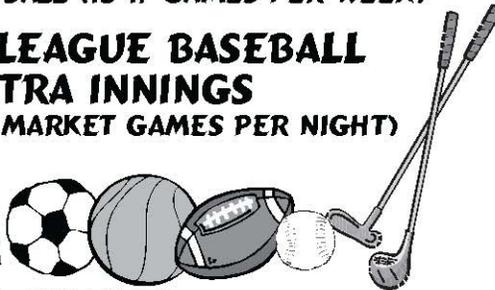
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# Death Valley Tour

**When:** February 17, 18, 19, 20 (Feb. 17 Optional)

**Cost:** \$10 per car (you are responsible for your own food and lodging) to be paid to KC or Larry Sharp upon your arrival.

**Tour is open to all drivers and all cars**

**RSVP:** Larry Sharp at [larrysharp@comcast.net](mailto:larrysharp@comcast.net)

**Deadline:** February 1, 2012

## **Saturday, February 18:**

Tour will leave at 9AM from:

Best Western Plus Town and Country Lodge  
1051 North Blackstone St, Tulare, CA 93274  
Phone: 559-688-7537

KC and Larry Sharp will stay overnight Friday night. (Friday night is optional but it cuts down long driving time on Saturday).

Plan for a potluck lunch on Saturday on our way to Stovepipe Wells. There is a block of rooms set aside for Saturday and Sunday nights at:

Stovepipe Wells Village Inn  
Highway 190, Death Valley Junction, CA 92328  
Phone: 760-786-2387  
<http://www.escapetodeathvalley.com/hotel>  
Group Code: Porsche 1

Saturday night we will have a group room for dinner.

## **Sunday, February 19:**

You are free to explore all of Death Valley's sights.

There is no scheduled dinner. You can choose to eat at Stovepipe Wells again or make reservations at Furnace Creek Resorts for fine dining.

Furnace Creek Dining  
Phone: 760-786-3385

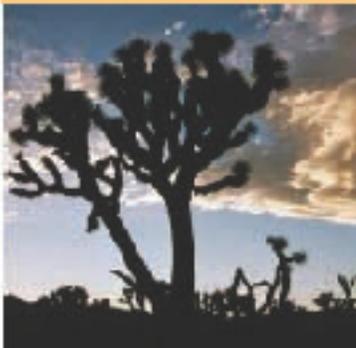
## **Monday, February 20:**

Drive home. There will be no organized tour to drive home but in the past, small groups have gotten together to drive different routes home.

**Just remember:**

**Weather can be unpredictable in February.**

**Be prepared for all types of weather!**



## Food and Friends

Diablo Region members are now meeting at Buttercup Bar & Grill, 660 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek, Ca 94596, located between N. Broadway and N. Civic Drive. Breakfast is every Saturday at 8AM. Be sure to wear your name tag! This is a great way to casually meet other members and catch up on upcoming Region events and Porsche news.

There is a monthly dinner held the 3rd Thursday of each month at Strizzis restaurant at 3456 Camino Tassajara in Danville. The group meets at 6:30PM.

Great food and great people! What more could you ask for! Be sure to mark your calendar to attend at least one dining opportunity.



---

## Pleasanton Saturday Breakfast

### Additional Saturday added!

If you can't get up in time to get to the Saturday morning breakfast at Marie Callender's in Walnut Creek, drive over to Pleasanton and join a few hungry members at Vic's All Star Kitchen. We meet each month on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 8:30AM.

The next breakfast is scheduled for December 10th and again on December 24th. We hope to see you there. Vic's is located at 201 Main Street, Pleasanton. We have tables reserved in the back-room. Check directions at:

<http://www.vicsallstar.com/about.htm>.

Please RSVP to Ira Madnick at: [imadnick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:imadnick@sbcglobal.net) so we can get a good headcount. See you there!!

BREAKFAST * LUNCH * DINNER BANQUETS PATIO DINING CATERING	
	<b>Vic Malatesta</b> <i>Owner</i>
	201A Main Street Pleasanton, CA Ph: 925.484.0789 Fx: 925.484.4163 <a href="http://www.vicsallstar.com">www.vicsallstar.com</a>

## Christmas Tree Decorating and Potluck

Twelve brave Diablo members ventured out in the foggy afternoon heading north to Sacramento to join hundreds of other car enthusiasts at the California Auto Museum to admire vintage autos, partake in a potluck and socialize. There were three tables set aside for Porsche members. This day was the final day for the Porsche portion of the exhibit. The entire museum was buzzing the entire evening. There was a raffle with several prizes to be awarded and of course we had two winners, Elsie Lum and Jacquie Lietz. There were a couple of pictures taken by Ed Won and Walt Lietz. Hope to see you there next year.



Ten Diablo members at this table and Jack and Cathy Kuhn sat with the members from Sonora area.



Surrounding the Diablo decorated tree.



**The Big Winners!**



ALL the Porsche members who attended. Great people!!

# Last Chance

## Calling all Shutter Bugs PCA Diablo 2011 Photo Contest

Spring has sprung; Summer is almost here (not that the weather is co-operating).  
But your car is cleaned and waxed with a tank full of gas looking for good roads and places to visit.  
Now dust off the camera and take some pictures of your beautiful car for the 2011 photo contest.

We are looking for 3 pictures of your (or part of) Porsche in an "interesting" setting.  
You'll be the judge of what interesting is but please submit a brief description of the setting and why you choose it for the official judges.

The rules are:

1. Photo has to be shot between Jan. 1 and Oct. 31, 2011
2. Your car or part of it has to be in all photos. Shadows of your car are acceptable as long as they are recognizable.
3. Submit three (3) photos for the contest. Please include a description of each photo to help the judges.
4. Winner will be selected by the Board based on a combination of:
  - Creativity
  - Composition
  - Exotic location or distance from Bay Area
5. By entering the Contest, all entrants grant an irrevocable, perpetual, worldwide non-exclusive license to PCA Diablo, to reproduce, distribute, display and create derivative works of the entries (along with a name credit), in any media now or hereafter known, including, but not limited to: web display, newsletter usage, and publication of a calendar for sale.
6. We shall select some of the photos to make a calendar for next year. Proceeds from the sale of the calendars will be donated to charity under the club's name.
7. **Entry deadline Nov. 7, 2011**
  - Email to [photo.pcadiablo@gmail.com](mailto:photo.pcadiablo@gmail.com) or
  - Mail to PCA – Diablo  
Attn.: photo contest  
P.O. Box 30667  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
8. **Please include Name and membership number with your submittal.**
9. You must submit 3 photos. Photos may be color or black and white, and must be in high resolution digital format (jpg or tiff files).

Below was what the judges were looking for in last year's contest: the Photo Scavenger Hunt.

# HURRY!

## **Diablo Region Advertisers**

**Alan Kingsley, CPA**

**Big O Tires**

**EMC Collision**

**Gavin Autoworks**

**Hooked On Driving**

**Kahlers**

**M. Boyd Construction**

**MCE Racing at Thunderhill**

**Mobil Works West**

**Pacific HVAC Depot**

**Porsche of Fremont**

**Porsche of Livermore**

**Rocco's Full Sports Bar**

**Roger Kraus Racing**

**Strizzis**

**Zentrum Motors**

