

The devil's Advocate

January, 2012

Introducing Your 2012 Board Members



Back row: Luis Soler/Vice President & Membership Chair, Doug Wiebe/President, Dale Miller/Safety Chair, Ingrid Plooy/Advertising Chair, Satoshi Iwahashi/Publicity Chair. Front Row: Jacquie Lietz/Event Chair, Kay Maloy/Secretary/Editor, Kathy Soler/Treasurer/Calendar Chair (Absent: Nancy Bocanegra)





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January 2012

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2012 Diablo Region Board of Directors

President	Doug Wiebe	president@diablo-pca.org
Vice President	Luis Soler	vicepresident@diablo-pca.org
Treasurer	Kathy Soler	ksponsorschair@gmail.com
Secretary	Kay Maloy	secretary@diablo-pca.org
Director	Jacquie Lietz	events@diablo-pca.org
Director	Ingrid Plooy	advertising@diablo-pca.org
Director	Nancy Bocanegra	njbocanegra@yahoo.com
Director	Dale Miller	safetv@diablo-pca.org
Director	Satoshi Iwahashi	publicity@diablo-pca.org

Special Advisors to the Board

Past President	Walt Lietz	pastoresident@diablo-pca.org
Zone 7 Representative	Sharon Neidel	sharonneidel@yahoo.com

Committee Chairs and other Positions

Advertising Chair	Ingrid Plooy	advertising@diablo-pca.org
Calendar	Kathy Soler	calendar@diablo-pca.org
Charity Coordinator	Ingrid French	charitychair@diablo-pca.org
Chief Instructor	Scott Pope	chiefinstructor@diablo-pca.org
DE Program Chair	Mike Roberts	dechair@diablo-pca.org
Event Chair	Jacquie Lietz	events@diablo-pca.org
Name Tag Guy	Phil Eskildsen	nametags@diablo-pca.org
Newsletter Editor	Kay Maloy	editor@diablo-pca.org
Publicity Chair	Satoshi Iwahashi	publicity@diablo-pca.org
Safety Chair	Dale Miller	safety@diablo-pca.org
Tech Chair	Open	
Tour Chair	Ingrid French	tour@diablo-pca.org
Track Registrar	Mike Ciopyk	trackregistrar@diablo-pca.org
Webmaster	Steve Jones	webmaster@diablo-pca.org
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 2012 Event Calendar

January Sat. 6 th Senna Movie>Jacquie Sun. 22nd Blackhawk Museum Extravaganza>Jacquie	July Sun-Sat 8 th - 14 th Parade (Salt Lake City) Sat. 21 st Redwood Palomares Tour>Lillie Sat. 28 th Tour TBD>Ed Won & Lou Soler
February Sun. 5th Super Bowl>Walt & Jacquie Sat 11th Keller Estate>Lillie Sat/Sun/Mon 18, 19, 20 Death Valley Tour Loma Prieta Region Sat 25th Africa Tour Presentation>Lillie	August Sat. 4th Jellybelly Tour>Paul Smith Sat. 11th Tech Session #3>Phil Fri-Mon 17th - 19th Historics Sun. 26th Annual Family Picnic>Elsie
March Thurs. 8th Kingfisher Beer Tour>Jacquie Fri. 16th Driver Education Thunderhill>Mike Roberts Sat. 17th Tech Session #1>Phil Eskildsen Sat/Sun 24th & 25th San Juan Bautista>Walt & Jacquie	September Sat/Sun 8th & 9th James Dean Tour>Ken Sat. 29th Oktoberfest>Walt & Jacquie
April Sat. 7th Filolli Tour>Julie Hendeson Sat/Sun 21st & 22nd Healdsburg Tour>Paul Smith Sat 28th Tour TBD>Lou & Kathy Soler	October Sat/Sun 6th & 7th Grass Valley Tour>Paul Smith Sat. 13th Tech Session #4>Phil Sat. 20th Flying Lizard>Bill & Frank Mon. 29th DE Thunderhill>Mike Roberts
May Sat. 5th Corral Tour (Cinco de Mayo Tour)>Lillie Sat. 12th Tech Session #2 Detailing Your Car>Phil Sat. 19th Bocce Ball>Paula Ciopyk Sun. 20th Marin Concours Sun. 27th Wash N Shine	November Sat. 10th Tech Session #5>Phil Sat. 17th Planning Meeting Sun. 25th California Auto Museum>Walt & Jacquie
June Sat. 2nd Bill & Frank Liberty Ship Tour>Bill & Frank Sat/Sun 9th & 10th Arnold Tour>Jack & Cathy Kuhn Sat. 16th Russian River Tour>Patrick Schmidt Sun. 17th Yountville Car Show	December Sat. 8th Christmas Light Tour>Ted & Ingrid French

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Doug's Corner

By Doug Wiebe

As we start off 2012, I feel very honored to be President of this chapter. I look forward to working with a great Board of Directors, some new, some returning. We still have chairmanship positions that are open, but as of now, here are the roles of your new board:

LUIS SOLER, who has much club experience with Driver's Ed, tours, and our sponsors, will be our Vice President and Membership Chairman. Starting in January, he will also be doing the e-mail blasts.

KAY MALOY remains our Chapter Secretary, Newsletter editor, document keeper, DE registrar, and so much more.

KATHY SOLER will remain our Treasurer. I'm happy to have her experience and expertise to keep track of our funds, pay bills, and do all the Chapter banking. And, she does the Calendar updates on our website too.

INGRID PLOOY is our Advertising Chair. She is working on developing a more comprehensive long range sponsor program to not only help the chapter but make it easier for our sponsors to budget and plan their expenditures in advance.

NANCY BOCANEGRA will be responsible for the trophies for our annual awards dinner. We have a full slate of awards to give out on January 22nd. Have you made your reservation yet?

DALE MILLER is our Safety Chair. Most of our events involve driving our cars, and we want to follow the rules of the road on tours, and our own PCA and chapter rules when on the track. Regardless of the

Continued from Page 5

event type, we want to be able to drive our cars home in the same condition they departed.

JACQUIE LIETZ continues as our Event Chair for 2012. There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes to make all these chapter events happen. Jacquie plays a key role in helping set them up.

TOSHI IWAHASHI is our Public Relations Coordinator and will be working with the whole team, and our sponsors, etc., to get the word out on what we are doing. He also fills in for Phil with name tag door prizes and is one of our breakfast hosts.

In addition to the Board of Directors, we have others who are taking on a key role for 2012:

MIKE ROBERTS, DE Chairman, is off to a great start with our Driver's Education Program. With lot's of input from his "DE committee" he has many ideas for 2012. You already saw our instantly popular DE holiday coupon. Look for some ground school sessions on track driving, skid pad opportunities, and more this year.

INGRID FRENCH will continue as our Charity Chair and Tour mentor. She is also Insurance coordinator. Insurance certificates need to be processed for all driving events. Thinking about sponsoring a tour this year? Ingrid can help with that. (BTW, very nice Holiday Lights event at the French's house last month. Thanks for that.)

PHIL ESKILDSEN is still the "Name Tag Guy" and this year he is also setting up several Technical Sessions with some of our sponsors.

SCOTT POPE, Chief Instructor is working with Mike Robert's and the DE team. We are planning to develop more instructors within our chapter this year too.

MIKE CIOPYK is our Track Registrar and contributor to the DE committee.

STEVE JONES - Webmaster. Just like other things some members take for granted, our website does not manage itself. It takes a lot of expertise to make it all happen.

And, there are many members not on this list that help out in so many ways. We need you all to make it work.

As we start off the New Year, I especially want to thank **WALT LIETZ** for leaving this chapter in such great shape. We have had 2 very successful years under his leadership. Not only are our finances sound, we had many more activities than in recent past years. A large number were even hosted by Walt and Jacquie at their home. Quality events help attract membership and keep the chapter strong. He left some big shoes for me to try and fill. I'm glad he and other past presidents are around to help keep me on the right path. See you at the Extravaganza!

Doug



Strizzis Locations:

Downtown Pleasanton—925.484.9600

649 Main Street, Pleasanton

Danville—925.736.9292

3456 Camino Tassajara, Danville

Downtown Livermore—925.456.2200

2205 First Street, Livermore

Fremont—510.797.9000

2740 Mowry Avenue, Fremont

Porsches and the People Who Drive Them



Meet Ed Won

1. What first interested you in Porsche?

Porsche is a no compromise icon. All cars produced are sport cars period. Highly mass produced cars like BMW and Mercedes don't appeal to me. And I can't afford their truly exceptional models. Every Porsche is truly exceptional. (Except for the VW V6 powered 1st Gen Cayenne, Sorry)

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

The performance drew me in initially, I love the off road capability. Yes, my first Porsche was the Cayenne. I had owned a Land Rover and was quite impressed with it's off road capabilities, comfort and on road stability. Unfortunately, it was a lemon. I retained a lemon law attorney and went from Lemon to pepper. The Cayenne was about as capable an off roader when outfitted with the proper options and I have.

3. What are your interests (hobbies)?

I collect Pinball machines and have a small collection. Its part of our American culture and it's almost gone and was forced to learn how to maintain and repair them.

I also love photography; I picked it up from my first job working at a professional photography store. I still laugh at how many time professionals would ask me for advice just because I'm behind the counter. (If they only knew) I learned to pick out the advice seeking chatty ones and stall them until my boss could help them. First few months were nail biters. Please don't ask me for advice please... But I managed to pick it all up eventually. My boss/owner was an awesome mentor.

11'm a bit embarrassed to admit I collect Porsche advertising materials. I have a fairly odd assortment including a training DVD for Porsche salesman.

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

I'm a computer system Design Engineer at Safeway. I'm focused on the architecture and design of the Microsoft Windows Server

Infrastructure. But that's IT speak. In short, I add new computer systems that perform various business functions. Although we are known for our grocery stores, we have plants that manufacture a variety of products and a pharmacy business. The wide assortment of businesses keeps my job challenging. I used to work at Clorox with fellow Diablo PCA member Wayne Beumer. I highly recommend "persuading" your fellow Porsche owning co-workers/friends to join Diablo PCA. Although I recently heard Wayne use "coerced". The end result justifies the means.

5.What is your current Porsche?

My current Porsche is a 2006 Cayman S and a 2008 Cayenne S. I loved my Cayenne enough; I picked up the Cayman in 2009. It was garage queen when I bought it.

6. What do you like about your Porsche?

I love the performance and efficiency of both cars. They both still produce a grin every time I drive them. I'm sure you all know what I mean.

7. What options do you wish it included?

A free maintenance coupon dispenser. Seriously, I wished the cabin tech is a bit better. The new models are on par but still not as advanced as the Audi's. Cars like the Cayenne and Panamera have a different focus and shouldn't get out gunned in the cabin.

8. Is this your daily driver and if not, when do you drive it?

Both the Cayenne and Cayman are my daily drivers. - I AM PORSCHE EVERYDAY.

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

I like spirited winding country roads and recently track driving in my Cayman. Occasionally I do like to raise the air suspension and drive to the middle of nowhere to relax.

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

Eat. We eat a lot in this club. So it's right up my alley so to speak. I also enjoy the driving tours. Did I mention I love the fact that a driving tour starts with a breakfast, a spirited tour and usually ends with lunch? It's the best of both worlds.

I have a new found love of the DE days as well. Thanks to member Kelly Guglielmo for the inspiration.

11. Is there any particular event that stands out as most enjoyable?

I'm torn between two.

I really loved the new member picnic but I have a feeling I won't be invited back for the next one. I had great time meeting new members and new friends like Ed and Ciril Donnelly.

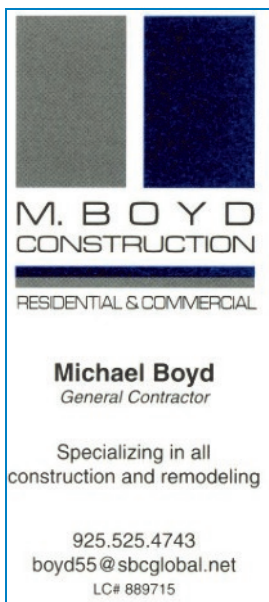
I really enjoyed Carlos and Nancy's tour to Lake Sonoma with Breakfast in Fairfield and lunch at Coppola's winery. Can you guess why?

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

Not that I can think of. There's such a wide selection. I never thought I'd play Bocce Ball. Thanks to Diablo PCA I can scratch that one off the list.

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

Since it's a fantasy question, it would be a tossup between the Porsche 917 and a GT3 RSR. Both would help me realize an unfulfilled dream to race. I was 4 years old when the 917 was breaking records and now I'm too old to learn to race Le Mans in a RSR.





Thank You!!

To



2011 Diablo Driver Education Team

I wanted to send out a special Happy New Year 2012 to a group of people that are dedicated and knowledgeable Porsche enthusiasts. Not only am I wishing them a Happy New Year 2012 but I wanted everyone who reads the Advocate to know that I thank you for your time and effort in making the 2011 Driver's Ed program a success. They are in no particular order: Luis Soler, Mike+Paula+Mark Ciopyk, Kay Maloy, Warren Gardner, Linda_Bartolomucci-Boyd, Randy Thorson, Ken Wu, Jerry Torres, Tom Marinshaw, Gerry McFall, Adam Cipriano, Tom Davenport, Mike Roberts, Jim McClelland, Scott Pope, Mike McDonald, and Nancy Bocanegra.

Additional recognition is required. This program was made possible in 2011 by the now outgoing Diablo President Walter Lietz and his Board of Directors – many thanks. I also want to acknowledge our sponsors in 2011 –Porsche of Fremont (Fletcher Jones Motor Cars) and Kahler's Werkstatt (Munesh and Ash Reddy).

A year ago, I was asked to assume the Diablo PCA Driver's Education Chair, and I said OK – reluctantly since I am classified as a beginner, but also a member of the previous 2 years DE Teams. I did have good guidance from Lou Soler, Warren Gardner and Dale Miller. Importantly, I was asked to keep the group together which didn't require much help, as they are always ready to help. I lucked out with 2 great events in 2011 that had great weather, wonderful participants, and above all a smaller than expected loss. Since we are not a track club, losses can be expected, but as before – the DE Chair strives to minimize the loss which is the rule.

For 2012, I was able to find an experienced track day enthusiast – Mike Roberts to assume the Diablo DE Chair and maybe beyond. Mike Roberts is an advanced driver and in 2011, a was multiple track day participant with other organizations as well. Mike has jumped in and is already preparing for a successful 2012 program. Mike already has the support of the 2012 Board of Directors and the DE Team. 2012 will be even better.

To make this short, I wanted to wish all of you, the 2011 Driver's Education Team, a big **Thank You** and a Happy New 2012 Year.

Carlos Bocanegra



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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
jhl_online@yahoo.com or 925-256-7620
by January 12, 2012.



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STAGE II EXHAUST: +85

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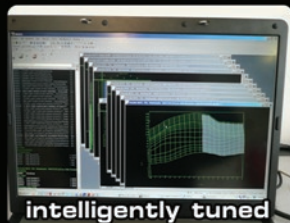
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Keller Estate Wine Tasting and Private Car Collection Tour

Saturday, February 11th, 2012

Led by Lillie Echevarria & Bela Privari



After breakfast, our tour will depart from the Buttercup Grill & Bar (660 Ygnacio Valley Blvd, Walnut Creek) at 9 a.m. towards Petaluma to visit the "Keller Estate Winery" for wine tasting and viewing of the owner's private car collection. Afterwards, we will continue to Novato for lunch.

The total cost per person is \$66 – it includes:

- At Keller Estate: Winery tour, private car collection tour (not open to the public); private wine tasting and a bottle of wine
- At Restaurant: Fixed-Price lunch, Choice of one entrée (vegetarian available), dessert and coffee/soda with tax and gratuity. Reserved parking - No need to pre-order.

Reserve your spot by mailing your check to:

Diablo/PCA, P.O. Box 1047, Livermore, CA 94551-1047.

Checks must be received by no later than **Wednesday, February 8th**.

RSVP to Lillie Echevarria at lillie62peru@sbcglobal.net or 925-549-5454 (Delay in response will occur from Dec 29th thru Jan 22nd). Hope to see you there!!!

P.S. You can meet us in Walnut Creek at 9 a.m. or at the Winery at 10:30 am.

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.



New Location for Monthly Dinner

There is a monthly dinner held the 3rd Thursday of each month. We will be meeting at a new restaurant on January 19th—Faz located at 600 Hartz Ave., 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 Buttercup Grill & Bar 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 backroom. Check directions at:

[http://www.vicsallstar.com/
about.htm](http://www.vicsallstar.com/about.htm)





Future Event

Haven't had a chance to take that trip to Africa yet? Longing to experience the sights of a Safari? Then you should attend the Africa Experience on February 25th at Walt and Jacquie Lietz's home. Diablo's own Lillie Echevarria spent 6 weeks traveling through Africa with her camera always ready for a great shot.

Lillie will be sharing her pictures and letting us in on the inside scoop about traveling in this mysterious continent.

Details will be coming soon!

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VIP Performance Preferred Program



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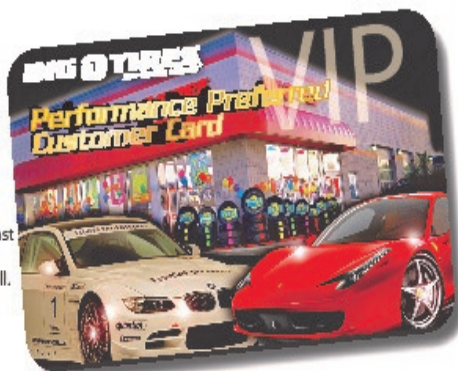
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For any additional questions please email

Guy Gamba at porsche@bigg.com

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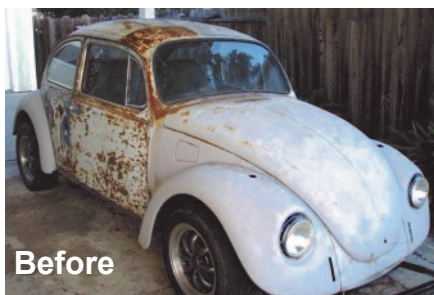
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Anyone Know What Jim McClelland Has Been Up To Lately??



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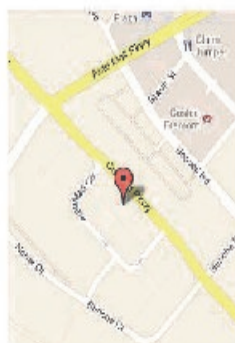
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Wednesday	9am-8pm
Thursday	9am-8pm
Friday	9am-8pm
Saturday	9am-8pm
Sunday	11am-7pm





New Members

New Members

Borowski, Kurt B.	2011 Carrera S, Black
Connell, Michael T. Sue Connell (Family Member) Af- filiate	2001 Boxster, Silver
Evans, James W. Sandy Evans (Family Member) Af- filiate	2008 Boxster S, Gray
Goodrum, Ed L.	2004 911 C 4, Red
Jones, Doug K.	1988 930, Red
Milstead, Mark W.	2005 Boxster, Yellow

Total New Members: 6

New Transfer In Members

Angelini, Sherry L. <i>Transfer from Golden Gate (GG)</i>	2000 Boxster, Arctic Silver
Smith, Paul B. <i>Transfer from Loma Prieta (LPA)</i>	1994 968 1973 914
Rebecca Bishop (Regular Member)	

Total Transfer In Members: 2

Primary Members: 596

Affiliate Members: 416

Total Members: 1012



Special Screening! Senna Movie Night



Date: Saturday, January 7, 2012

Time: 6PM Pasta Dinner plus Q & A with Dede Seward
7PM Movie Showtime

Location: Lietz Home
920 Cochise Court, Walnut Creek

Goodies Provided:

Pasta dinner, popcorn, candy and soft drinks

This high octane documentary recounts the remarkable story of Ayrton Senna, the dashing young Brazilian who in the 1980's and 90s became a superstar and multiple World Champion in Formula One Racing. Constructed entirely from archival footage, Senna spans the racing legend's years as an F1 driver, including astounding perspectives shot from behind Senna's wheel at Grand Prix races. An exciting movie, even for those with no prior interest in racing. Running Time: 104 minutes

Come early and get a FREE Senna poster!





By Mike Roberts

What a fabulous end of the year, for drivers. The dry weather may not have populated Tahoe with snow, but sunny and clear in December is the envy of the world! I managed to pack in a couple of late season track days at Thunderhill Raceway which were excellent despite the short days, with low sixties temperatures, small run groups and no bugs decorating the windshield and the front of the car...although the first run of the morning was a little chilly with windows down!

At the beginning of December, we got the Diablo Driver Education team together for breakfast and discussion of the Program for 2012 and beyond. (By the way, we welcome anyone interested in the DE Program to these meetings - email me at DEChair@diablo-pca.org and I'll include you in all communications to the team). There's only one caveat if you attend - you may get asked to help...!

At the meeting we brainstormed ideas of what we would like to include in the program in 2012 and beyond. There were three key aspects which were important to members:

- Continuing our successful visits to Thunderhill Raceway (2-3 each year), but over time adding visits to our other 'local tracks' at Laguna Seca and Infineon.
- Building depth into the DE Program - including opportunities for enthusiastic drivers who may not want to jump straight into track days; providing driver education seminars; a mentor program for new DE drivers; and developing our technical inspection/education.
- Developing our instructor program – both in strength and depth.

We are going into the New Year with enthusiasm, confidence and a great team of members who appreciate the value of our DE Program. At the Club's December Board meeting, budgets for 2012 were approved we already have two committed dates at Thunderhill Raceway (March 16th and October 29th), with more to come. Our recent Gift Voucher program gave the opportunity for quite a few early sign ups for next year and filled some stockings with a great gift!

Of course, our Driver Education track events are not big compared with many out there – and that's completely intentional. We aim to balance the safety and instructional aspects with providing a friendly and fun day where both regular drivers and beginners can enjoy an exhilarating experience with plenty of track space, track time and

(Continued from page 24)

excellent instruction. We provide this at an incredibly reasonable cost.

However, one of the challenges is that the math may work at Thunderhill - it's more affordable. But when you look at Infineon or Laguna Seca, it's a whole new and higher price band...so we would need to dramatically increase the level of sign-ups or team up with another organization to make it feasible – at least in the short term.

By the way, on our track days we don't race and we don't do time trials or competitions of any type. Drivers are there to have fun, learn to be better drivers overall and share the experience with friends. In looking for another group to team up with, we want to work with people who have a similar attitude and viewpoint, plus a professional approach to managing HPDE days. At our meeting, we decided that the closest was Hooked On Driving, with whom many of our members have first-hand experience, (including me). Therefore, we are talking to them about taking an exclusive run group for Diablo PCA at one of their events or having a large Diablo PCA contingent of drivers take part in one of their track days. It's a relatively easy way to increase the number of events on our Diablo DE calendar. We are also looking at whether a car control clinic would be a feasible addition to an event, run alongside the track event, in the paddock of one of the larger venues. The idea being that in addition to the Diablo group of track drivers, we could entice further Diablo members to take part in some practical exercises in their cars, spectate at the circuit and get together for a whole group lunch. There's a lot we can do to make Driver Education interesting to a much broader member population. More to come as we develop these ideas in the New Year.

By the way, I heard a rumor that we're only interested in 911's. Complete tosh! In a typical Diablo Driver education event you'll often see Caymans, Boxsters, 944's, 928's, 968, 914 and Panameras - any Porsche is good with us as long as it passes Tech Inspection.

Close to each track event we have a couple of Tech Inspection opportunities, provided by our sponsors, when their specialist technicians check out your car. It doesn't take long and it's free! Even if you are not intending to go to the track, you may want to attend one of these inspections, which are just as relevant for driving on the road! Recently, one of our members discovered that he had a

(Continued on page 26)

dangerous tire defect on an inside wall, which was found at our inspection. This would have been at least as hazardous on the free-way, if not corrected.

Tech Inspections are very sociable events too, where you can get to meet other members, chat Porsche for a couple of hours and eat pizza! Plus, every time I go, I always learn something new about the maintenance, construction or operation of my car. As we develop plans for the Driver Education Program, to include opportunities for drivers who don't want to track their car, but would like to learn more about car control, tech inspections will grow.

Finally, there is something I have talked a lot about and with our instructors. At each track day event we put on, we try hard to balance the needs of drivers who need instructors for their introduction to the track, or to enhance skills. We rely not only upon Diablo member instructors, but also instructors from other regions who come in for a very busy day. They do get the chance to run on track too, although not as much as regular sign-ups, which is why we offer instructors greatly reduced rates.

Lately, our instructor program has not been consistently feeding the pool with new blood and the programmatic side - sharing information and collaborating as an instructor team - has not been very active. We need to remedy this and will work to regenerate the team in 2012. We need experienced drivers who may be interested in instructing others, are an active part of the Diablo PCA community and who feel that 'giving back' the experience they have had, by helping newer Diablo drivers learn the right skills in the right way. We will be looking forward to contacting all instructors and also getting together in the New Year to share ideas and plan forward.

Looking back on 2011, it was a pretty good year for Driver Education. The program was fiscally responsible and we had three successful track days, with accompanying tech sessions. Going into 2012, it's great to see the enthusiasm, passion for driving Porsches, having fun, and new faces taking part. I'm looking forward to a great year....and wish everyone a terrific 2012!



Holiday In the Vineyards

Patrick and Linda Schmidt did it again! On December 3rd, they led a group on a great drive leaving from the Buttercup Grill in Walnut Creek and ending up at Elliston Vineyards in Sunol. There was a brief stop for viewing the area from the Chabot Observatory. Lunch was a treat for all at Frankie, Johnnie and Luigi's.

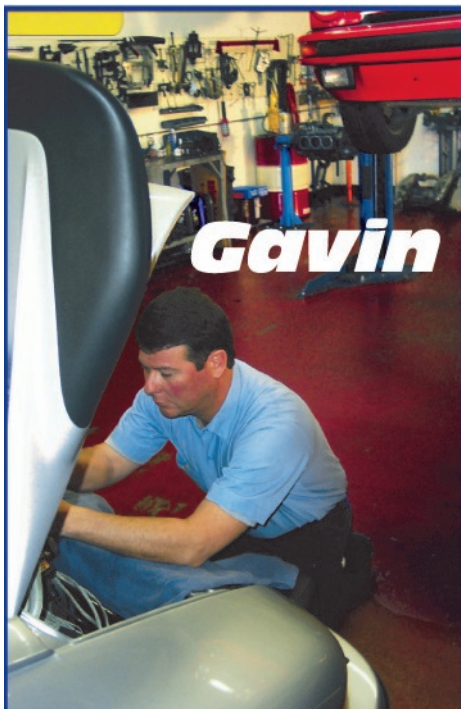
Afterwards, members could enjoy the remainder of the day visiting several wineries participating in the annual event.



Photos from Walt Lietz

Special Thanks To Ingrid French

Ingrid was a busy girl in 2011. Not only was she the Tour Chair and the Charity Chair, but she also found time to have a party / tour in December for the Diablo members. Diablo Region was able to donate over \$1000 to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, backpacks and school supplies to Contra Costa County Special Services for the foster children in their program, but we also donated toys to the EMQ Families First of Contra Costa County all initiated by Ingrid. Ingrid, THANK YOU!

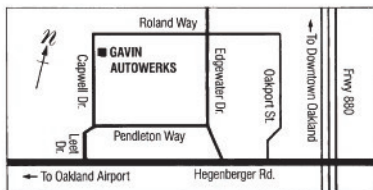


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Holiday Party at the French's



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Windmills & Canyons Tour

Lillie Echevarria led Diablo members on the final daylight tour of 2011 and delivered a day filled with fun and information. The day started at Vic's in Pleasanton, then on to Porsche of Livermore for a tech session. Then it was off through the canyons and windmills for a lively drive before heading to Casa Orozco for lunch.



Get ready! Get set! Go!!



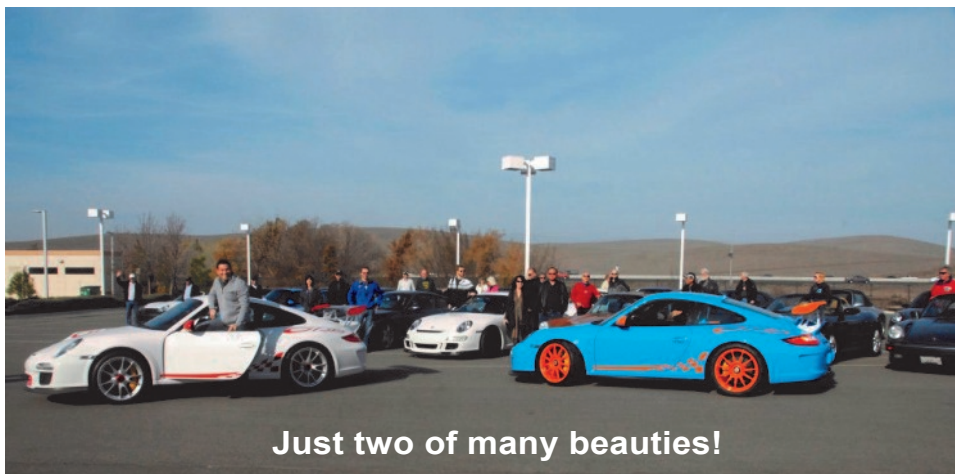
**Getting the latest tech information from
Porsche of Livermore.**



Very attentive group!



What a Panorama of beauty!



Just two of many beauties!



Even Santa decided to join in the fun!



**Driving through
Canyons
and
Windmills**

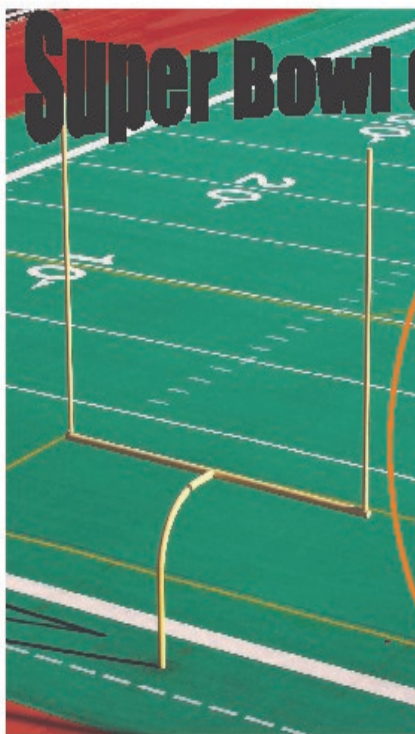




Nothing like food to get everyone focused after a great drive!



Super Bowl Celebration



It's that time of year again to enjoy the best of Friends, Food and Football.

When: Sunday, February 5

Time: Arrive at 3 for kickoff at 3:30

Where: The Lietz residence
920 Cochise Ct., Walnut Creek

Chili and beverages provided. Bring your favorite appetizer/snack to share.

RSVP Jacquie Lietz at

ihl_online@yahoo.com

or 925-256-7620

by February 1



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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

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!





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