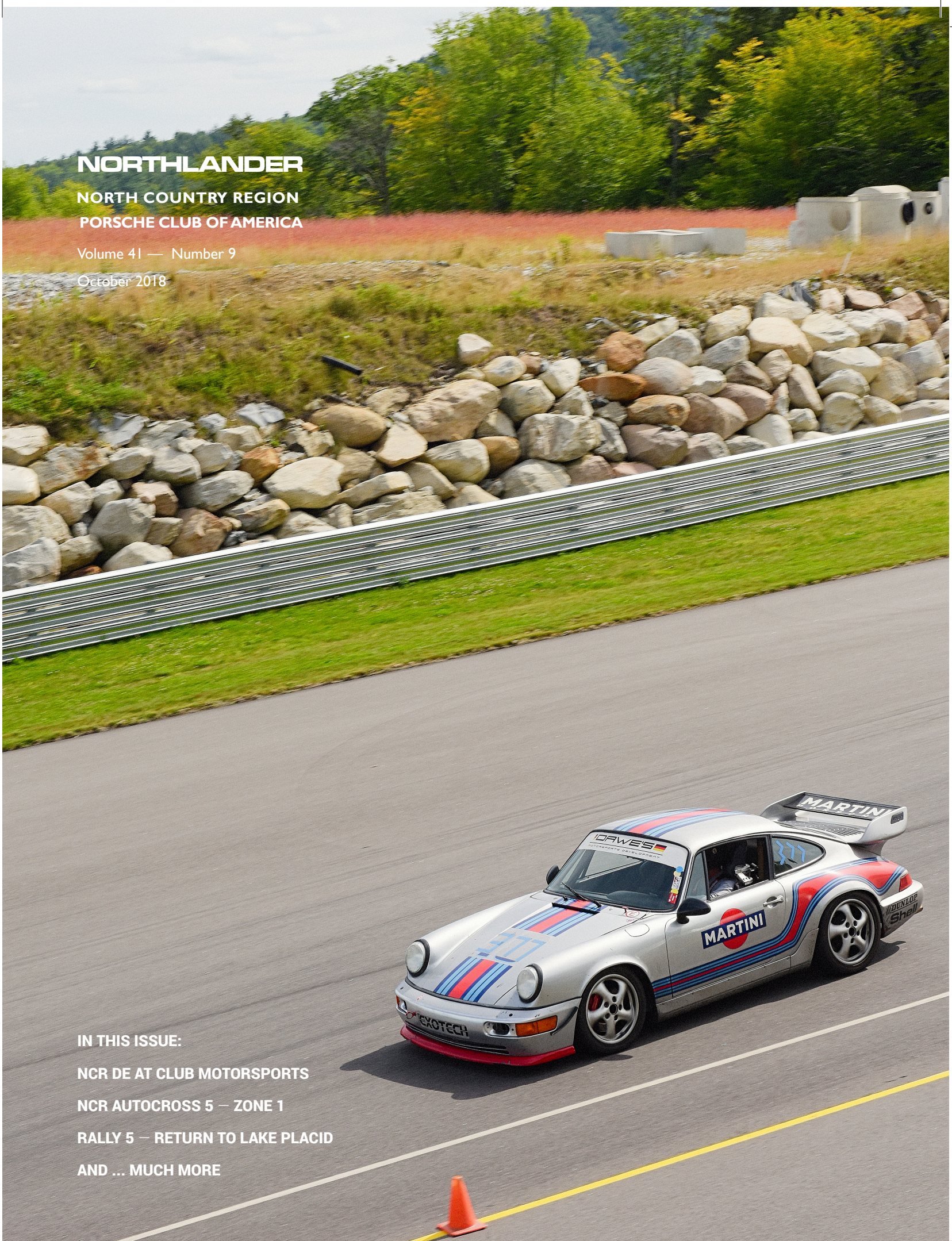


NORTHLANDER

NORTH COUNTRY REGION
PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

Volume 41 — Number 9

October 2018



IN THIS ISSUE:

NCR DE AT CLUB MOTORSPORTS

NCR AUTOCROSS 5 – ZONE 1

RALLY 5 – RETURN TO LAKE PLACID

AND ... MUCH MORE



NCR-Celebrating 40 years

North Country Region's Annual Banquet with Guest Speaker: Ellen Beck.

*Calling all Porsche Enthusiasts
the annual celebration of Porsches and People is near!*

We would love to see all past Presidents and Charter members attend.

Saturday, November 10, 2018

Londonderry Country Club, 56 Kimball Rd, Londonderry NH

Time: 6:00 – 10:00 PM
Cash bar: 6pm
Appetizers @6pm

Dinner will be served from the Buffet Station at 7pm:

Entrees:

Fresh Garden Salad
Pasta Primavera Salad
Beef Bourguignon
Lemon Cream Chicken
Cranberry Rice
Green Beans with Dill Butter
Artisan Breads and Rolls

(Gluten Free or Vegetarian entrée available upon request; please indicate on the return section below.)

Dessert:

Coffee served with Cake

Any questions please email Ivy@thunksreviews.com

Cost per person will be \$50.00 (includes tax and gratuity). Please complete the section below and include your check made payable to: NCR-PCA. **Please respond by Thursday, November 1, 2018.** Tie is optional; no jeans, please.

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Phone Number: _____ E-mail address: _____ Special dietary request _____

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Statement of Policy

Northlander is the official publication of the North Country Region (NCR), Porsche Club of America (PCA). Opinions expressed herein are purely those of the writer and are not to be construed as an endorsement or guarantee of the product or services by the Board of Directors of NCR. The editor reserves the right to edit all material submitted for publication. Material may be reprinted by PCA Regions without permission provided credit is given to the Northlander and the author.

The regular article and Advertising closing date for the Northlander is the 1st of the month preceding the publication month. See page 40 for advertising rates.

NORTHLANDER

**NORTH COUNTRY REGION
PORSCHES CLUB OF AMERICA**

Volume 41— Number 9

October 2018

Upcoming Events

October 6 - 7	Driver's Ed at NHMS; Make-A-Wish see pages 11 & 19
October 14	NCR Rally 6 - Fall Fliage Western Maine
November 10	NCR Annual Banquet; celebrating 40 years of fun!!

See 2018 calendar on the NCR web site

Save the date ... November 10 ... NCR Banquet 2018

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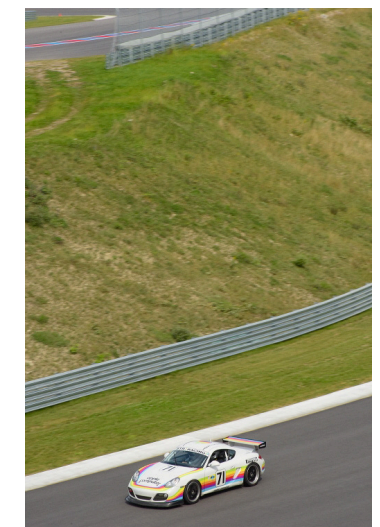
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On the Cover

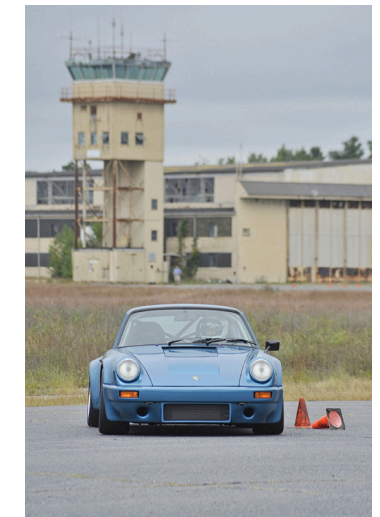
Club Motorsports' PA announced: "Martinis at 11" and we thought that sounded like a early happy hour at a super event. But no. It was two Martini livery 911s at Turn 11.

The cover photo is Felipe Avery-Miranda. The other Martini livery belongs to Aaron Murphy.

See page 14



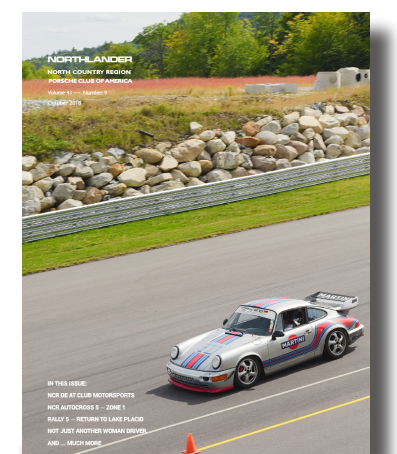
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BOARD

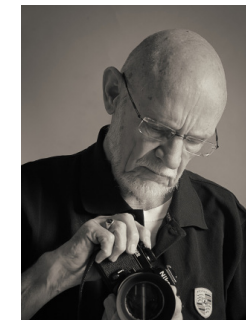
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EDITORS' DESK



I am still in awe of the Club Motorsports day on Friday September 7. From sign-in on it was a great day of meeting some super CMS staff and flaggers. The flagger lady at turn 11 popped her head out to say good morning. "Pit Out" Kelly was full of energy and conversation and suggesting photo ops. "Pit Straight flagger" Jackie was equally full of conversation and invited me up to her flagger platform to get a new perspective. CMS has a very positive attitude and a contagious enthusiasm. I heard a comment to indicate the flaggers were not yet up to speed and familiar with the course ... but that is just a matter of education and experience with the track — a quick fix. Attitude takes longer to fix. If the drivers enjoy this track as much as this photographer does — then CMS is a great success.

Changing the subject: I must comment, and express my appreciation, for the photographers who submitted photos for the recent two issues. A quick count and I see six talented photographers in there. The Editor is impressed. The Editor is also grateful for the comment emailed from a NH subscriber to *Northlander* who deemed the August issue to be **bodacious!**

We have just one more issue this year. November—December is a twofer and will cover our last events and the annual banquet. And then — it is winter. And spring is a long time coming.

Have you had a good read recently? I just finished *TOTAL COMPETITION* by Ross Brawn and Adam Parr. It is a good read if you are into management, motor sports, engineering, or business politics. A strange mixture of topics? No. Ross Brawn was respected for years at Jaguar, Williams, March, Benetton, Ferrari, and finally at Brawn which became Mercedes. Then he retired and went gardening. I recall at the time wondering why. A couple of years ago I was listening in on a conversation at Laguna Seca between Ross Brawn and Derek Bell and could not miss what a gentleman Ross Brawn is and how much he is respected. Then he came back to the sport as part of the new F1 management. This book will explain it all. The usual F1 cast of villains and characters is well covered and they include details of Bernie Ecclestone. This book does not change his reputation from what it has been.

Have you heard of any interesting projects recently? Do you remember the Messerschmitt Tiger? It was the four wheel version of the 1960s three wheel bubble car. My UK-Aussie colleague Anthony tells me of a colleague of his who is planning a replica version with electric drive from a Renault Twizy. It will only have a 100km range but it will get there as fast as a GT3. Interesting.

And as I write now it is a wet late September day. A reminder that the summer is closing. We have just had our Autocross 5 — Zone 1 event and I have this issue of *Northlander* about 90% done. I reflect on some great events this month and several conversations with fellow enthusiasts/photographers. I did plan for Autocross 6 to be in this issue, but no, it will be in the twofer along with the Make-A-Wish event and the banquet. And then ... and then, spring is a long time coming.

Thank you to those wonderful enthusiasts who have renewed their *Northlander* subscriptions for 2019. We appreciate your support :-)

Congratulations, and thanks, to Paul Tallo ... first to renew.

READY TO RENEW YOUR *NORTHLANDER* SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2019?

SEE PAGE 10

MEMBERSHIP



Kristin Allen

New Members:

Jeff Bakken
New Ipswich, NH – 2006 Cayenne

Maurice Ledoux
Bedford, NH – 1999 911 Carrera

Anthony Parente
Alton, NH – 1984 911 Turbo

Erik Potts
Stratham, NH – 2012 911 Carrera S

Keith Schofield
Brookline, NH – 1984 944

Transfers – Welcome to North Country

David E. Whitney

Patricia Whitney

Thornton, NH

1983 944 Red

2004 Cayenne Silver

2009 Cayman S Black

Transfer From: Central Pennsylvania (CPA) – Joined PCA
2/1/1994

October Member Anniversaries:

1 Year

Bruce Anderson
Windham, NH – 2015 Cayman S

Bruce Cresswell
Campton, NH – 2015 911 Carrera 4S

Michael Joyce
Rye, NH 2017 – 911 Carrera 4S

Samuel Keller
Manchester, NH – 2008 911 Carrera S

Nathanael Slater
Ariel Slater

Hopkinton, NH – 2017 Cayman

2 Years

Daniel Bakis
Merrimack, NH – 2014 Boxster

David Goddard
Newbury, NH – 2001 911 Carrera

Robert Lindsey
Manchester, NH – 2009 911 Carrera

Carl MacConnell
Marlow, NH – 2000 Boxster

30 Years!

Paul Demers

Phyllis Demers

Goffstown, NH – 1983 911 SC

10 Years

Robert Scott

Danielle Scott

Hollis, NH – 2004 911 Carrera

32 Years!

George Louzek

Janis Louzek

Hollis, NH – 1982 911 SC

Please notify the membership chair: membership@ncr-pca.org if you have changed your home or email address.

PRESIDENT



Jeff Torrey - **Just around the corner...**

Since the last issue of *Northlander* NCR held its DE event at Club Motorsports in Tamworth, NH. The 3-day event turned out to be a huge success. The DE team worked very hard and put on a great event. Pat Maloney has negotiated with the track for dates for next year. Personally I'd like to publicly thank the DE team for their hard work. I appreciate their efforts very much.

Up and coming events include our annual "Spring is a long time coming" (our last DE event of the season) on October 6th and 7th at New Hampshire Motorsports Speedway. This event includes our Charity Laps for NH Make-A-Wish.

On October 14th we have our last Tour of the season: Rally Event # 6 Fall Foliage of Western Maine. [see page 26]

On Saturday November 10th we celebrate NCR's 40th year with our annual banquet. You can expect to see an invitation in your mailbox soon. Along with that invitation keep an eye out for the subscription renewal for *Northlander*. As well as the annual official voting ballot for the 2019 slate of officers.

That's all for now. Please take advantage of the year-end events. Winter is long ... and spring is a long time coming.

-Jeff Torrey

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

NCR has vacancies on The Board for 2019
We need a Vice President and a Secretary

If you are interested in these positions please
contact:

Ivy at charity@ncr-pca.org

or

Jeff at president@ncr-pca.org

LINKS:

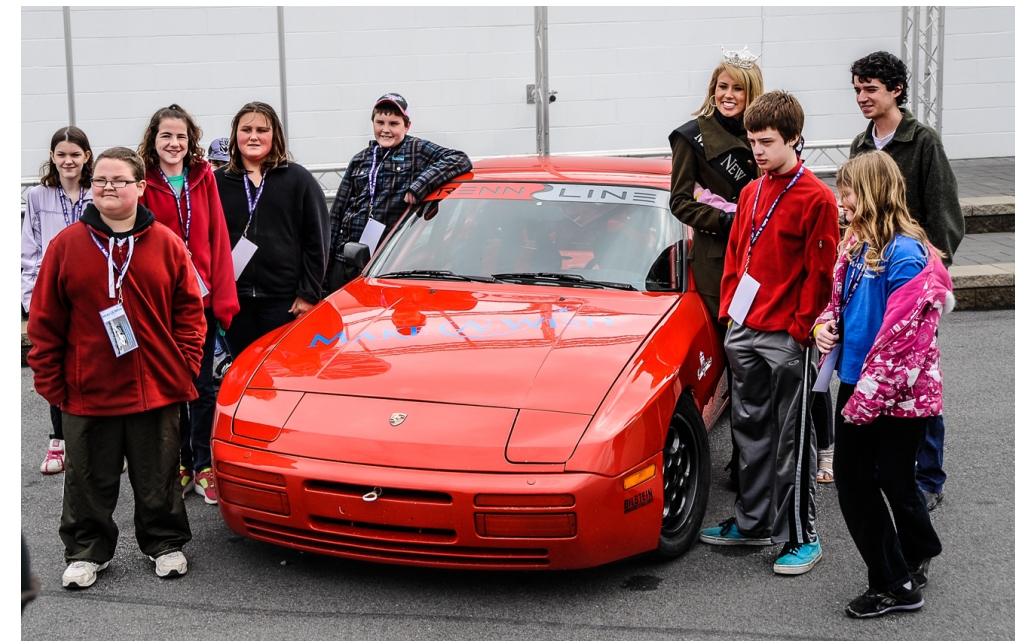
charity@ncr-pca.org

president@ncr-pca.org

WAS IT A GOOD READ IN 2018? WANT IT AGAIN IN 2019?



NCR—MAKE A WISH DAY—SATURDAY OCTOBER 6th



NHMS Laps for Charity

Charity Laps Touring Group ... rain or shine:

Experience the excitement of driving the 12-turn road course during a mid-day session in your own car but at reduced speeds with no passing allowed. Helmets are not required. Passengers and children are allowed. This is a great opportunity to drive "Parade Laps" at NHMS in your daily driver or your Porsche. Participants can be PCA members or non-PCA members. Cars will go through a brief tech inspection for lights and basic safety features.

You will be required to sign waivers.

Registration and tech Inspection 10:00 - 11:15am Mandatory Driver's Meeting at 11:30am

Mandatory Driver's Meeting October 6th at 11:30am:

All drivers and passengers must attend a short meeting to familiarize them with the track, the rules of the Parade Laps, track terminology, safety flag definitions, and to answer any questions you might have.

Speeds must not exceed 60 mph. This rule will be enforced. Please see check box below.
Check www.ncr-pca.org for any updates to this event.

REGISTRATION: (please bring a copy of this with you to the event)

Name _____ Additional Drivers _____
 Address _____
 Phone (day) _____ Phone (evening) _____
 PCA Region _____ PCA# _____ or, guest of _____
 Car Model _____ Year _____ Color _____

____ Charity Laps Touring Group @ \$45 per car
 ____ Long sleeve event shirt @ \$20 each – Size: **M L XL XXL**
 ____ DONATION OF \$ _____

\$ _____ **TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED** (All checks payable to NCR-PCA)

I have read and I understand the speed limitation and that it will be enforced: _____ (please initial here)
 For passengers under 18 **both parents** must sign an additional waiver. If this is done before the event a notarized copy will be required.

CONTACT: Ivy Cowles, NCR Charity Chair cell (603) 767 6461 day/work (603) 343 5358 email charity@ncr-pca.org

Northlander 2019 subscription renewal.

Please mail your check for \$15 made out to NCR-PCA to Kristin (include your mailing address) to arrive before November 1, 2018

Kristin Allen (Northlander)
58 Edgewood Drive
Hampton NH 03842



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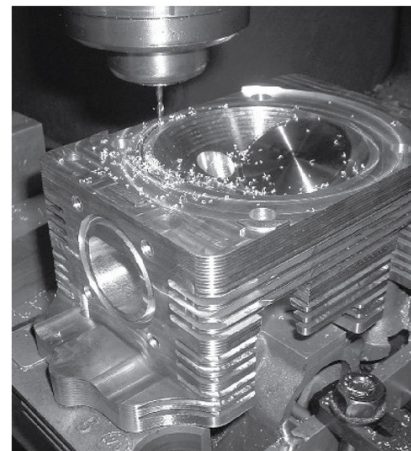
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DE at Club Motorsports September 7, 2018

Photographs by David Churcher



We do not have an article on the event but you can read a few words of description in The President's message on page 8 and in The Editor's column on page 5.

For a more detailed description you will need to find someone who was there and ask. But prepare yourself for a stream of superlatives to describe a spectacular event.

Page 14: A second Martini at 11? This one belongs to Aaron Murphy.

Page 15 top: Ellen Beck conducts a class of DE Instructors.

Page 15 lower: Happy DE Instructors apply what has been learned in the classroom.



Top left: Tony and Pat discuss a very urgent topic — where to buy a birthday cake for Ellen.

Top right: two colleagues of the photographer discuss various topics. One colleague threw a plastic bottle at the photographer as he drove by — can you guess which one?

Middle left: Matt Romanowski takes refreshment between class and on-track practice.

Middle right: Judy Hendrickson relates her drive to Parade on the west coast, and back to NH, with Ellen. It was their “Thelma & Louise” trip which at one point saw them pulled over in what Judy describes as *BubbaLand*.

Lower left: John Lussier attends to NCR-DE paper work between taking laps.



Top left: There is always something in need of fixing at a track event.

Top right: Kristin Larson / Dave Berman at Turn 11 with “The Apple Car.”

Lower left: Flagger Jackie on the pit straight. Jackie hosted the photographer on the platform.

Lower right: Judy Hendrickson / Matt Romanowski at the end of the straight in Chiquita.



DE

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

Learn new driving skills

Learn about your car

DE-Chair@ncr-pca.org

The fall chill is already in the air and before you know it, we will be shoveling snow out of the driveway and off the roof. Before all that happens, you need to get out on the track for one final DE event. That event just happens to be on the 6th & 7th of October at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. It is appropriately named 'Spring is a Long Time Coming'. Besides all the great driving, have you ever seen the fall foliage from the track? The views are spectacular and they give you another good reason to keep your eyes up while driving — you already know the other reason — right?

Additional activities include Charity Laps at noon on Saturday. You will get an hour of lapping the track in your own car. The revenue from these activities as well T-shirt sales all go to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Besides the driving and everything associated with just being at the track, you have the opportunity to join your fellow drivers and friends at the Loudon Country Club to partake of a special dinner.

NHMS is our home track, and it is the site of many televised races, including Nextel Cup. What is not usually shown on TV is their 1.6 mile road course with 12 turns and some exciting elevation changes making for a good learning environment for novices and a challenging and technical drive for our advanced drivers.

Top left: Do you know of a more scenic track? Anywhere? **Top right:** Pit out Kelly at work.

Middle right: A very elegant livery on a 911.

Bottom row: Back to the classroom with Ellen Beck ... and ... happy birthday, Ellen.



Photograph on page 20: Nigel Fenwick with a mic and a monitor keeping things in order on day 1 of the event.
 Photograph on page 21: Mike Bryan, Zone 1 PCA rep, and his wife Pam joined in for both days.

NCR Autocross 5-Zone 1 September 15 & 16, 2018

Text by Nigel Fenwick
 Photographs by David Churcher

Once a year many of the North East region PCA Clubs gather together for two days of camaraderie and fun competition in Ayer, MA for Zone 1 Autocross. For Sue and me this our fourth Zone 1 and it's one of the must-attend events on our calendar now. The weather on Saturday started out slightly foggy early in the morning, but the clouds eventually burned off and we were left with a near-perfect day for autocross.

Saturday's course was fast and flowing, without too many technical challenges. This meant that by the end of the day, competition in many classes was very tight, leaving plenty of opportunity for bench-racing over beers at the evening barbeque. As always, the BBQ was the highlight of the weekend, with good food and good cheer. And after feeding ourselves, we fed the mosquitos!

At dawn on Sunday we had clear blue skies and low humidity. What a perfect start. After adding just enough gas to get us through the day – and stopping to buy the all-important Nesquik bunny milk for Sue, we headed to the airfield to see who would end-up victorious in each heat. In many ways, Zone One replicates the competition of SCCA nationals, with the best run from day-one combined with the best run from day two, to give each driver a total time across both days.

Sunday's course ran around the field in the opposite direction to Saturday's and the course, while fast, was more technical in places, requiring a patient foot on the gas pedal. Slow in, fast out turned out to be a recipe for success. Talking to many drivers, Sunday's course was the preferred course of many of the fastest drivers.

We ended the day with prizes for each class and the region trophy presentation. Ollie took FTD and since Sue won FTD Ladies, I can officially say I'm married to a fast woman! And while it was great to see our region do so well in the trophy count, Zone One is more about community and a shared passion for Porsche and autocross than it is about winning. In that respect, everyone is a winner at Zone One. Congratulations to everyone who joined in to make it another fabulous event. I'm already looking forward to Zone One 2019. Mark your calendars.

Please see page 33 for results and comments by Joe Kraetsch.

continued on page 22...



Above: In the absence of Akira's 904 replica the photographer has designated Paul Kudra's 911 as being his favorite car of the event.

Above left: Bob Canter uses Porsche Launch Control to advantage in winning (!) his class.

Middle left: Chris Ryan heading into the first chicane.

Lower left: Umbrella? Rain? No, no. Rain was for Autocross 4. This umbrella is for sun.

Autocross people: From the top left — Joe Kraetsch, Lisa Roche, Mike Bryan, Don Coburn, Bob Canter with Mike Bryan, Graham Mingst (Zone1 AX registrar and NCR member from NY), Tammy from NER at her first Autocross..

continued on page 24...



The awards: top photograph is Zone 1 Autocross winners NCR-PCA ... photo by Anker Berg-Sonne.

Lower two photographs: Bob Canter receives his award for first, and last, in SO1; Don Coburn receiving his award for 2nd in SO5 ... photos by Anker Berg-Sonne

Lower two photographs: Sue Fenwick was FTD ... photo by David Churcher.

Anker Berg-Sonne shows Dan his appreciation for the award for 5th in SO1... photo by Amriel Lucier.

Rally Corner

By The Rally Team

We are just back from our "Fall Get-A-Way to Lake Placid, NY" where we were experienced a drive over seemingly endless serpentine roads through the wilds of upstate New York. Early Fall weather was perfect ... dry and sunny ... for driving through dense forests past scintillating lakes reflecting colors of the early Autumn season. We made a mid-morning rest stop at The Visitor Interpretive Center (aka The VIC), a nature center on the campus of Paul Smith's College, before continuing to exercise our Porsches on some of the best twisties to be found anywhere. A pleasant lunch at the Malone Golf Club restaurant provided rest for an afternoon stint of more roads against which to test our vehicles. All returned with smiles that, according to one participant, "would have to be chiseled off". Our day ended with dinner at Jimmy's 21 Restaurant in Lake Placid. Goodbyes the next morning, and we headed for home.

Our final Rally Event for the 2018 season will be on Sunday, October 14, and will feature roads of western Maine through wooded valleys and over hills decorated with autumn color reflected in pristine lakes. We anticipate fall color will be close to peak at this time, so mark your calendars and register to the last rally event of the year. We begin in Conway, NH and will finish with a late lunch at Ebenezer's Pub in Lovell, Maine.

Have you enjoyed the NCR Rally Program this year, or perhaps had an interest but have not yet participated? We need your ideas. Better yet, give back to NCR. We need your ideas plus your help in planning and executing events. Contact Rally@NCR-PCA.ORG.

NCR Rally / Tour Event Calendar for 2018

Rally Event #	Date(s)	Description	Status
1	May 12	Hildene and Manchester, VT Tour w/ overnight option.	Completed
2	June 15-17	Spring Get-A-Way to Saratoga Springs, NY	Completed
Bonus	June 26	The Great Race Intersect	Completed
3	July 14	Three States Along the Connecticut River	Completed
4	Aug 18	Roads, Laps, and Lunch Tour	Completed
5	Sept 15-17	Fall Get-A-Way Return to Lake Placid, NY	Completed
6	Oct 14	Fall Foliage of Western Maine From Conway, NH we drive into Maine over winding roads past pristine lakes with reflections of fall colors on a route that delivers us to a late lunch in Lovell, Maine.	Registration Open on MotorsportReg

Rally 5, September 15-17, 2018 Return to Lake Placid

Photographs by Alan Kirby & Bill White



Departing the staging area in Lake Placid, NY.
Photo by Pamela Kirby

Pretty Porsches all in a row at The VIC.
Photo by Alan Kirby

The cars:

- Top Left:** Walt and Jane Rankin's Arena Red 993 C4S with Whiteface Mountain in the background.
- Top Right:** Porsches parked amid Adirondack solitude at The VIC at Paul Smith's College.
- Bottom Left:** A rare stop sign on the way to more twisty roads.
- Bottom Right:** Ready to go at the staging area at Whiteface Mountain Ski Area.

The people ... see page 28



Barbara (Weston) Gratto, 95, of Henniker, died peacefully September 7, 2018, in the care of Harris Hill Nursing Home in Concord, N.H.

Barbara was born on April 10, 1923, the daughter of the late Gail B. Weston Sr. and Dora (Paridis) Weston.

She graduated from Pinkerton Academy in Derry, NH, Class of 1941. Barbara was always civically active in her community and a strong advocate for education.

She was a lifelong learner and held degrees in nursing and accounting. She was a former Derry School Board member and worked for Derry Visiting Nurses. Later in life, she volunteered at Henniker Historical Society and was a long time member of the Stratford Club of Concord, N.H. Barbara was a passionate supporter of all things Democratic and was a devoted member at St. Theresa's Catholic Church in Henniker.

Barbara lived life to its fullest, with great passion for all of her interests and her family.

She touched the lives of all who knew her, including her many friends and extended family. She was so proud of all three of her "boys" as anyone who knew her would say.

Barbara is survived by her three sons and their wives: James and Deborah Gratto of Kennebunk, Maine and Estero, Florida; Michael and Biff Gratto of the Villages, Florida; and Steve and Ann Gratto of East Charleston, Vermont and Estero, Florida. Barbara is also survived by 12 grandchildren and their spouses; Janet (Randy) McDermott, Jay (Jaime) Gratto, Peter (Eva) Gratto, William (Joanna) Gratto, Christopher (Bari) Gratto, Amanda (Tom Solely) Gratto, Kristen (Steve) Allen, Brooks (Chris) Starnes, Jodi (Phil Eramo) Steverman, Alex (Nicole) Gratto, Erin (Nick Augsberger) Magoon, Christopher (Juliet Higgins) Magoon, along with 21 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews of whom she was exceedingly proud.

Barbara was predeceased by her husband Edward Gratto, parents Dora and Gail Weston, and her two brothers and their wives, Gail and Peg Weston and Carl and Marie Weston, and her beloved nephew, Alan Weston.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in her name to Pinkerton Academy Alumni Association 5 Pinkerton St, Derry, N.H., 03038.



Top Left: Chris and Dana Russian, Kathy White, and Pam Kirby admire original art at The VIC.

Top Right: Bill Zierden anticipating the day's drive.

Middle Left: At the Drivers Meeting - (left to right) Lisa Roney, Kathy White (partly hidden), Audrey Amarante, Ester Romero (mostly hidden), Ted Chivers, Heidi Geil, Mark Geil, Jay Roney, Lois Giegerich, Bob Giegerich, Neil Robnson, Nick Robinson, Neal Beluse, Geno Kievit, Charlie Nutter, Mary Nutter, Sally Zierden, Bill Zierden, John Amarante, and Bill Meyer (seated center).

Middle Right: (left to right) Pam Kirby, Bill Zierden, Dana Russian, Kathy White, Chris Russian, and Sally Zierden.

Bottom Left: Nick and Neil Robinson, Jay Roney, and Geno Kievit stretching their legs at The VIC.

Bottom Right: Kathy White and Pam Kirby must be having fun ... look at those smiles.

Owls Head Car Auction August 2018

By Kristin & Stephen Allen



Steve and I attended our first ever car auction: The 41st annual New England Auto Auction at the Owls Head Transportation Museum in Owls Head, Maine. We've wanted to visit this museum ever since we read about it in Sports Car Market's 2018 Insider's Guide to Automotive Museums. One of our favorite automotive writers, Donald Osbourne (Mister "it's time to assess and caress", for you Jay Leno's Garage watchers), contributed to compiling the list.

The museum is adjacent to the Knox County regional airport and as such has as many displays of aircraft as ground vehicles and engines.

The venue was already exploding with energy when we arrived around 10 a.m. — too late to see the very first car auctioned off: A 1969 Chevrolet Corvair Monza Convertible. We have a 1963 Monza coupe (a.k.a. "Skips") and are always curious to see how much money we'll lose when we eventually sell it ;-)

We listened to the auctioneer and just absorbed the whole scene for a while from the spectator area before we started to wander around. Bidders were allowed up from seating and access to the fields behind the museum to view the cars up close. We quickly realized it was well worth the extra \$40 to upgrade our tickets to one bidder pass and guest.

We went back inside to watch the bidding once again.

I have 52 on the floor. 55 and 60! 60! 60 and 65! 65 thousand and 70 and 65 and 70! Rare rare car! 65 and 70! 70! 70 and 75! It only hurts for a minute! 70 and 75! 75 going once! 75 going twice! All in and done at 75! SOLD at 75!!

Breathe.

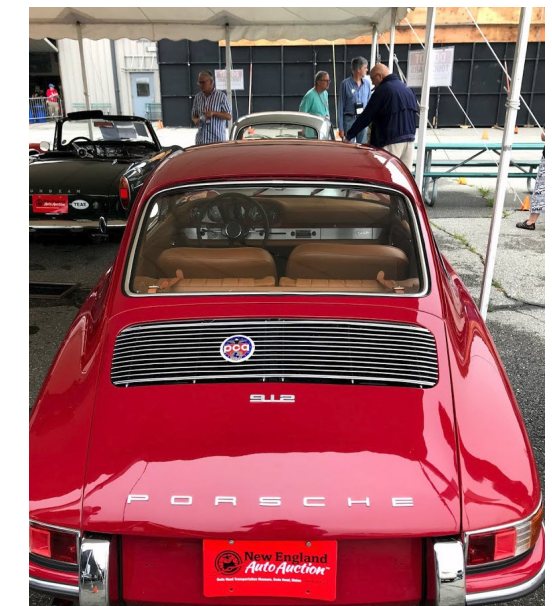
The energy is addicting. You really do have to sit on your hands.

We watched as a 1957 Dual-Ghia Convertible closed at \$250,000 to a rousing round of applause from the audience, and sighs of disappointment when a 1969 Chevrolet Camaro SS 572 Custom Coupe didn't meet reserve at \$55K.

A 1970 Plymouth Superbird 2-door ("Mr. The King" for those of you with young children . . . this was my son Mason's Cars movie hero when he was little) went to a good home for \$170,000.

Porsche was well represented with a lovely burgundy 1967 912 coupe (going for \$65K, I think), a silver 1958 356A sunroof coupe (\$97.5K) and a red 1989 930 turbo slant-nose coupe that went home for \$119K. There were also a few early 2000 911 Carreras. The make, model and year range swung wide, allowing participation by not just speculators, but also the enthusiasts like Steve and me of the quirky but lovable, attainable vehicles like Volkswagen beetle convertibles, Alfas, MGs, Willys Jeeps and an adorable, stubby little 1931 American Austin that surprised us it was even able to make it up the ramp onto the auction platform.

We're hooked and we'll be back next year. Gotta clear a spot out of the garage before then . . .



No, Steve — you cannot buy the Ford Delivery van.

Yes, I know it's a V8.

I never should have allowed you to get a bidder number.

Where Are The Cool Cars?

By Danielle Badler

It came and went again this year, too fast. Two days of hopping in and out of a slew of vehicles, all at my beck and call. And all because, as your faithful scribe, I qualify to be a certified card-carrying member of the Rocky Mountain Automotive Press Association (RMAP.)

Each year, a number of manufacturers bring to town a variety of products. And we “automotive journalists” get to flog them up and down the foothills of the Rockies. For free. Unless you factor in the cost of membership in RMAP. Which can still be written off as a business expense. Such a deal.

Oh yeah. Pinch me. Some of the best two days of the year. Even though, through the six or seven years I’ve done it, Porsche has never participated.

No worries. There are always some delectable treats to savor. Let’s see. Yeah, an M5 BMW, a Kia Stinger, a Bullitt Mustang, a Subaru BRZ, a Mercedes E430 convertible, a Mazda Miata.

Is that it? Well, no. There was a VW Tiguan, a Subaru Ascent, a Jeep Wrangler Sahara, a Ram 1500 Longhorn Crew Cab, a Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid, a Nissan Titan Midnight Edition, a Nissan Rogue AWD. And more.

You know what’s coming? Here it is; is that it for cool cars?

I guess I shouldn’t be surprised. One of the great joys of an event like this is the interaction with a slew of like-minded pencil-pushing gear-heads. In this crowd, you feel perfectly normal. And they’re very knowledgeable.

I made my “where are the cool cars?” comment to a fellow scribe, and he said “glad you asked. I’ve been tracking it.”

Really! With that, he pulled out his smartphone and went to a site which recorded year-to-date truck/SUV/van sales vs cars in the US. Want to guess the percentage of this group through July this year? 68.3%.

He also tracks these stats by manufacturer. Care to wager on which company is producing the highest percentage of cars, as of midyear? Did I hear Porsche? Good guess, but wrong. It’s Hyundai Kia at 57%.

Welcome to the modern world. I guess I shouldn’t have been surprised. I mean, after all, Subaru is the unofficial car of the Rocky Mountain Region. The standing joke is a \$3,000 mountain bike riding on top of a beater \$800 Subaru Outback.

Nor was I surprised when I found myself behind the wheel of the Nissan Titan truck. The way these runs work is everyone draws a ride out of the hat for the first leg out, and the first leg back, after lunch. Then we stop a pre-arranged spots every 20 minutes or so, and get into something else. So you get to hop in and out of a lot of ... uh ... vehicles. Yes, it’s nothing in-depth. If you’re like me, you want to get up and go. So there’s time to set the mirrors and seats, maybe find that favorite radio station ... and you’re off.

I drew the Kia Stinger as my first ride. Loved it. An automatic, but it really pulled. I’d say it’s a bona fide 3-Series or A4 fighter.

But, at the first changeover spot, what was there? Nothing. Nothing but the Titan. In all its triple-black how-do-I-hoist-myself-in glory.

I have to say, for a huge vehicle, it did get up and go ... and corner, although that’s a relative term. I did have a general idea of what was going on. But it was so ... big.

The engineering tour de force? Easily the M5. An MSRP of around \$130K. 600 hp. Reminded me of a Bentley Continental I drove a few years ago. Here’s what it’s like. Don’t look at the speedo, because you won’t believe it. Literally everything on the road, be it a truck, SUV, van or car, is an obstacle to maneuver around. It doesn’t matter how fast they’re going. They’re in the way. All you want them to do is keep doing what they’re doing. So they don’t do anything to disturb your controlled pattern through and around them. The thing just flies. With no drama. And it wraps around you - you have no idea about the actual volume and heft of the vehicle. I felt the same thing only once before, at the wheel of a Panamera.

I can’t say the same thing about the Bullitt Mustang. But the snorting bruiser was fun, cue-ball shifter and all. Loved the dash. It’s a digital array of the following; a bar graph tachometer on top, a readout of what gear you’re in at the lower left and a speed read-out at the lower right. That’s it. What you need, right now, and no more.

Among the stick-shift cars, and there were only three, I actually enjoyed the ’19 Miata the most. Oh, it took a few stints to get the pedals/seat/wheel geometry just right. But, after that, driving was intuitive. And you definitely could feel the power injection for the new model year.

The most opulent? The Merc. Nothing even came close. The rep put down the top and pointed out the car’s built-in “air cap.” What looks like a miniature spoiler pops up on the top of the windshield. And a typical wind deflector pops up on the rear deck.

It works, especially when coupled to the ventilated seats on a hot day. Or cold. Although I couldn’t sample the heated air that can come out of the headrest on chilly days. It’s called a neck warmer.

And, oh yeah, I did have the seat massage on. Take me to the club, James!

Another surprise was the new Nissan Leaf. I drove the last model on the track a few years ago. When I came into the pits, the rep asked me what I thought. I said the car can’t handle. It shouldn’t have been there. But this one ... it feels like a real car. A real electric car. With Tesla-like oomph off the line. Range is still only around 150 miles. But, if that works for you and your daily commute, the vehicle should work for you too. Especially after factoring in government rebates.

Is this work? If so, it’s the best kind. Although I wonder how much longer it can go on. I guess I’ll just have to renew my membership and see what shows up next year.

More on Autocross 5 by Joe Kraetsch

North Country made an impressive showing on the podium bringing home nine First Place trophies, three Second Places, two Third Places and nothing lower! On top of that, NCR’s Ollie Lucier grabbed the Men’s FTD (fastest time overall) trophy and our own Sue Fenwick (NCR Webmaster) brought home the Ladies FTD. In addition to the individual class competitions, Regions compete in the Region Challenge for bragging rights. North Country defended our Region Champion title, winning for the 7th time in the 13 years of the Challenge!

Congratulations to the class winners:

S01 - Showroom Stock 1	Robert Canter	NER	P05 - Production 5	Gareth Peters	NCR
S03 - Showroom Stock 3	Adam Blauer	NER	P06 - Production 6	Nigel Fenwick	NCR
S04 - Showroom Stock 4	Charlie Sayers	NCR	P07 - Production 7	Daniel Quaroni	NCR
S05 - Showroom Stock 5	Chris Doty	NER	P08 - Production 8	Spencer Martin	MNY
S06 - Showroom Stock 6	Chris Ryan	NER	I01 - Improved 1	Joe Kraetsch	NCR
S07 - Showroom Stock 7	Jeff Johnson	NER	I02 - Improved 2	Oliver Lucier	NCR
S08 - Showroom Stock 8	William Riehl	MNY	M01 - Modified 1	John Mingst	NCR
P02 - Production 2	Bill Aubin	NER	M02 - Modified 2	David Seavey	NCR
P03 - Production 3	Adam Small	NER	Men’s FTD	Oliver Lucier	NCR
P04 - Production 4	Chris Hubert	NCR	Ladies FTD	Sue Fenwick	NCR

The complete results are posted on the NCR website.

Thank you to

Dan Fishkind, Zone 1 Autocross Chair, for organizing and managing the event;

Graham Mingst, Zone 1 Registrar, for all his hard work and assistance;

Mike Bryan, Zone 1 Representative, for making the trip, helping, supporting and making us all feel appreciated;

Don and Barbara Coburn for arranging and cooking the Saturday Night Barbeque;

Chris Ryan for procuring the grill for the barbeque;

Justin Chen for setting the Saturday course;

Stephen Lefebvre and Ollie Lucier for setting the Sunday course;

...and to all the participants for their friendly competition, comradery and help and support to keep the event running so smoothly. Thank you all for making this the best Zone 1 Autocross ever!

MART

For Sale: 2011 Porsche Boxster Spyder for sale by original owner. 2625 miles. Garaged.

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For Sale: 1960 Mercedes Benz 220SE Cabriolet. 76,000 miles, Black/red. Totally rust free, 50 years in Las Vegas & Santa Fe. New top, new leather seats, recent black lacquer respray; even the radio works! Class winner 2015 MAW show. \$125k or reasonable offer; 45 pix available or view & drive in person. 603-343-7575

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Contact: Dan
Exeter Motor Works, Exeter, NH



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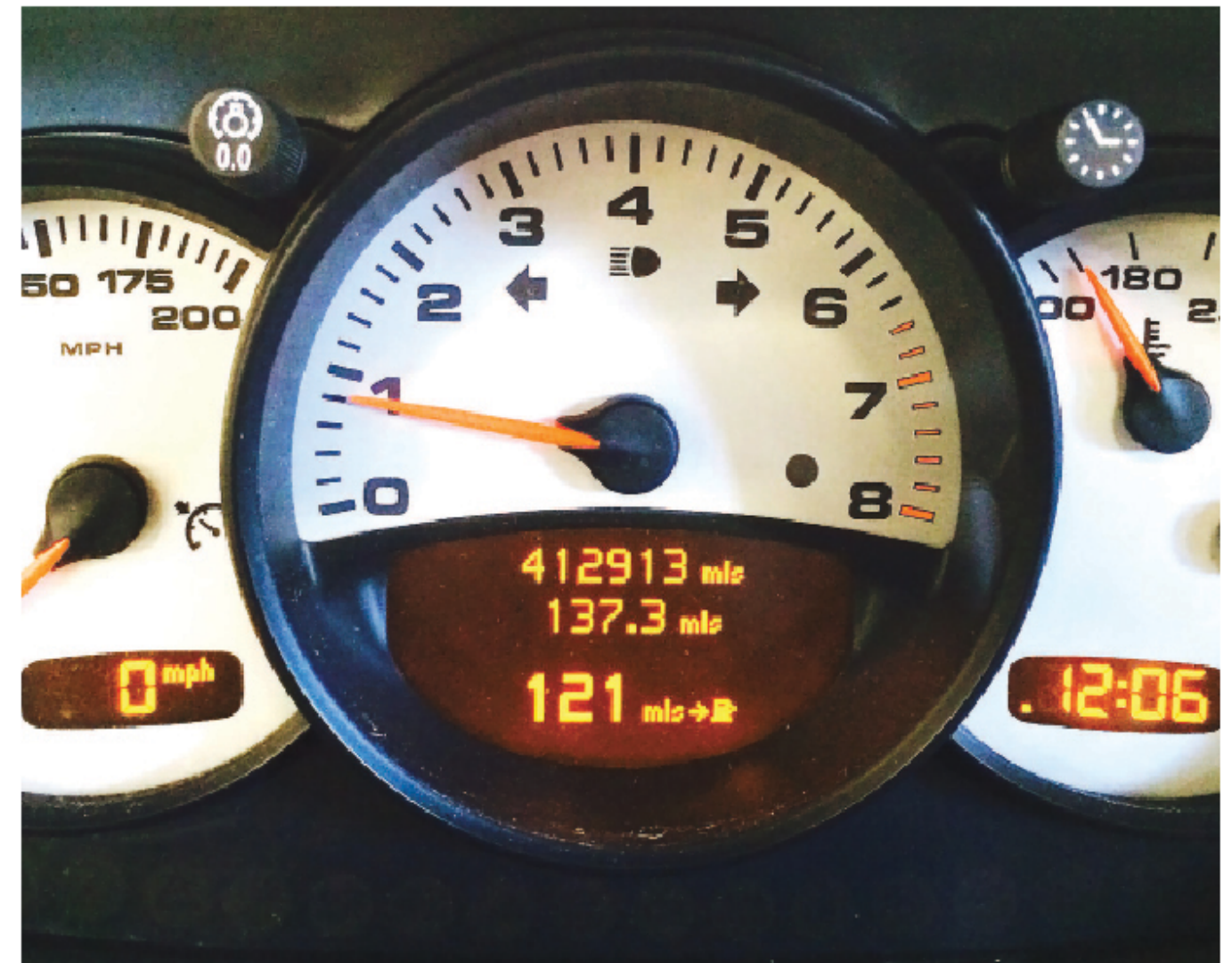
Do you read *Christophorus* magazine? It is the Porsche magazine published by Porsche. If you are not a subscriber do check it out ... well worth the effort. The above photograph is from the current issue.

NEXT MONTH

NCR Autocross 6

Spring Is A Long Time Coming Make-A-Wish at NHMS

NCR 40th Anniversary Banquet



These days, with Photoshop, CGI and the myriad of ways a photograph can be altered, we believe it is very important to occasionally take a moment and appreciate natural beauty...

The above photograph was taken while Tom's 2003 911 turbo was in for routine maintenance. European Performance Engineering has been caring for Tom's cars since 2009... oh, by the way,

Tom's wife's vehicle, a 2004 Cayenne turbo has traveled 310,000 miles... so far.

So, the next time your Porsche, car or truck needs maintenance be sure and give us a call.

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