
Blau

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Rain

www.brr-pca.org

BLUE RIDGE REGION

PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA



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Blau Rain*

BLUE RIDGE REGION
 PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

Blau Rain is the official monthly newsletter of the Blue Ridge Region, Porsche Club of America; available only by subscription to BRR members as a portion of the annual PCA dues. For subscriptions for non-BRR PCA members, contact the Editor.

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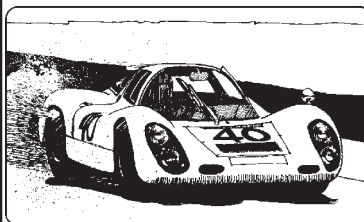
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Clip art from PCA. Uncredited photos by the editor.

***Blau Rain** is a 17th century German translation meaning Blue Ridge.

Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. at Porsche of Roanoke in Roanoke, and are open to the general membership. Please join us.

Cover: Jim Michaels competes in a recent autocross. Thanks, Jim, for your work as BR editor. With your help we will win next year's newsletter competition.
 Photo: Unknown

Newt's News

Many thanks to Ann & Manuel Sowers for hosting the July social, and to Wanda & Keith Martin for helping arrange a most enjoyable event. In addition to our annual Mexican Potluck, we participated in a survival game. Terri Fort and Pat Clowser beat the guys in a timed golf cart race. Think it had something to do with the heavy end of the egg being down. Only the women understood. Also, better start watching Terri at DE events.

Porsche of Roanoke will be having at least one Grand Opening, probably in September so please watch the paper and make plans to attend. They also announced that BRR members will receive a 20% discount on parts and labor.

Speaking of Porsche of Roanoke, beginning Sept. 12 and the 2nd Tues. of every month, the BRR Monthly Board meetings will be held in their showroom. It is the last building at the south end of the Hammersley Auto complex on Rt. 220 south. Please join us in our new location.

The September social is a trip to Abingdon for a very enjoyable and EASY bike ride along an old railroad line. You may also want to spend at least one night and take in a Play. Watch for details and make your plans accordingly.

Drive the corners,

Ed Clowser, Jr.
President

cont. from p.4

Hotel Information: Make your reservations** at the hotel of your choice.

Martha Washington Inn, (Across the street from the Barter Theater) -
\$179. Includes breakfast. A historic Inn. 1-276-628-3161.

Hampton Inn, Exit 17 on Route 81 - \$81. Includes Breakfast. 1-276-619-4600.

Comfort Inn - \$69.99. Includes continental Breakfast. 1-276-676-2222.

Theatre Information **Make your own reservations ** for the show of your choice.

Barter Theatre Information is available @ bartertheatre.com or 1-276-628-3991.

Bike Ride Information- vacreepertrailbikeshop.com or 276-676-2552.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2006

(Blue Ridge Region PCA Official Events in *italics*)

- Sep 17 (Sun) *Bike Rides and other activities at Abingdon, VA*
- Oct 6 Grand Am Races at VIR
Oct 7-8 *Octoberfest! Mountain Lake, VA. German food, beer,
(Sat or Sun) music, and dancing.*
- Nov 11 (Sat) *Election Lunch, Peaks of Otter Restaurant, Blue Ridge
Parkway.*
- Dec 9 (Sat) *Holiday Dinner & Charity Auction. Corn Beef & Co. in
beautiful downtown Roanoke.*



Maury Hamill prepares to go on track. Other than the name on the helmet this could be any BRR member. The people make the club and the events. The name Porsche makes it more fun.

Photo: Unknown

Join us for an “Al La Carte” weekend in Abingdon, VA, Saturday – Sunday, September 16th & 17th. Participate in the events that you choose, from our available options.

Saturday, September 16th

OPTION 1

11:45AM: Meet at the new Porsche Dealership on 220 South of Roanoke.

Please have your lunch before you arrive.

12:15PM: Leave the Porsche Dealership and travel to Abingdon, by back roads. Parkway to Route 221 South, @ Floyd to Route 58, @ Independence to Route 16, @ Volney to Route 81 South to Abingdon.

5:45PM: Arrive at the Pepper Mill Restaurant in Abingdon

6:00PM: Dine at the Pepper Mill Restaurant

7:45PM: Leave for the Barter Theater where 2 shows are being featured, you choose which one to see. Ticket prices are \$36 per person.

“Almost Heaven” - A tribute to the life and music of John Denver – with interviews, fan letters, parts of his autobiography and his music.

“I’ll Never Go Hungry Again” – A musical comedy with four actors portraying characters from the classic, “Gone with the Wind.”

10:15PM: Leave for your hotels. ****Make your own reservations, see list of hotels. The Barter Theatre Box Office and phone numbers at the end of this information.****

OPTION 2

Leave your home and arrive at the Pepper Mill Restaurant in Abingdon, VA by 5:45PM to join the rest of the group for dinner. Continue on with Options listed above.

Sunday, September 17th

8:30AM: Leave your hotel for a Bike Ride on the Virginia Creeper Trail.

9:00AM: Arrive at the Virginia Creeper Trail. We will take a bus ride to the top of the mountain, and then ride bikes for a 17 mile down hill ride through gorgeous country. (Time- 3 ½ hours Cost- Bus ride and rental bike \$23. Bus ride and your bike \$12. We will depart for home after a late lunch on Sunday.

Please RSVP by Sept 13th to Gary Templeton, 434-525-2973, or by email: wehokies@msn.com, please include BRR Porsche club in subject line.

Thanks!

cont on p. 2

BLUE RIDGE REGION BOARD MEETING

August 8, 2006

Draft Minutes Have Not Been Reviewed By The Board Rev. 1.0

VISIT THE WEB SITE— www.brr-pca.org

Attended: Ed Clowser, Harry Hall, Eddie Fort, Jerry Hampton, Dave Hogan, Gary Bell, Gary Templeton, Dave Snow and J.D. McClure

Eddie Fort, Tres. Reported expenses of \$ 0, income of \$ 450.00 with an ending balance of \$18,179.08 as of 7-31-06.

Jerry Hampton, VP reported all Blau Rain advertisers have paid in full.

Dave Hogan, Blau Rain Editor, reported the invoice for printing the August issue was up slightly due to the printer miscalculating the July bill.

Gary Bell, Track Chair indicated BRR will receive an insurance refund due to cancellation of our DE event. He also indicated that Summit Point indicated we are welcome again to rent their track.

J.D. McClure with Porsche of Roanoke announced BRR members will receive a 20% discount of parts and labor. He also was glad to hear that future Board meetings will be held in the Porsche showroom. He agreed to provide the necessary chairs, etc. to make the meeting enjoyable.

Ed Clowser lead a lengthy discussion on our club exploring the possibility of participating with another club or Company for a DE event. For several reasons, a Company affiliation was declined. The Board did feel we should make a call to First Settlers to see if there is any interest. Ed agreed to make that call.

Gary Templeton, Social Chair reported on the September social bike ride and/or Theater Play weekend. He also brought up the planned October social at Mt. Lake. The Board asked him to look at other possible weekends as numerous members would be out of town.

Shenandoah Region PCA August Autocross

Jim Michaels' report on the Commonwealth Games autocross in the August Blau Rain covered the largest event on one of the longest airport courses in this area. To see how Shenandoah Region PCA's Chess Earman earned FTD in his Cayman S, and to find a more Porsche friendly class structure than SCCA's, Jim and Maury Hamill went to the Augusta County Government Center in Verona (just north of Staunton) for a much more laid back and Porsche friendly autocross.

With a more typical size parking lot and less than a quarter of the entrants (26) we started later (arrive at 10:00 AM), had more runs (5), and still finished early enough to be home for dinner. The class structure they use is: Early 911 (through '79), Mid 911 (to '94), Late 911 ('95 and later), and 944/Boxster. The two 914's, one a six and the other a modified four went into their year as if 911s, and the three Caymans ran in the Late 911 class. All other cars were in "Other" class, except for the two in Ladies class; Diane Earman in the Cayman S, and Alicia Fink in a Mercedes E320.

As the old-timers might remember when our PCA region was doing autocrosses, we shared all the necessary equipment with BRR-SCCA. Shenandoah Region PCA has everything they need, including a bar code sticker placed on the side window which the starter scans into the timer. As you approach the start line a red light confirms your car is in position and a green light indicates when you can start. The run time is displayed on a large LED at the timers desk, and a time slip is printed by the bar code printer. Actually a little more high tech than our SCCA region, which was a bit of a surprise to me.

The course itself was a long one, with good flow and a long straight diagonally across the whole parking lot. At the driver's meeting Rick Ebinger explicitly stated the straight was placed across the course because some of the Porsche drivers were tired of getting beat by Miatas.

So how did we do? Not sure we discovered how Earman beats everyone in his Cayman S, but he is fast and was able to do it again with a best time of 82.157. Jim was second overall .707 behind, and .033 better than Maury, who earned the "honor" of writing this article when Jim proposed the loser write the report for BR. Fourth and fifth places overall were taken by two other BBR-SCCA autocross regulars; Mick Seal in a Miata, and

Ray Schumin in a Mini Cooper S. So the long straight apparently only helped the Caymans.

Their next autocross is September 17 at the same site which has the unusual assets of a large shaded and elevated viewing area and real toilets. If you would like to ease into autocrossing with your Porsche, this would be a good opportunity. Details are at Shenandoah Region's website (<http://shn.pca.org/>). Run times for all of their autocrosses, as well as photos, can also be found there. Just click on Autocross."

Maury Hamill & Jim Michaels

Tech Tip

Use the PCA web site to ask and research technical questions about your car. Model specific questions and answers are emailed to you.

Newsletter Contest Results

The results of the newsletter contest have been announced. Blau Rain finished 4th in Class 2 with 899 points, and 27th overall. There were 53 entries. The competition was judged using 2005 issues.

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Our Unofficial Track Event

Since our official Track Event was cancelled last month, a group of us recently spent a great weekend at Virginia International Raceway (VIR) attending a Car Guys event. The event was three days but most people didn't get there until Friday afternoon. That was the case for Ed Clowser and me who rendezvoused in Penhook near one of my projects and then proceeded down Rt. 40 to 29 into Danville.

When we arrived there were already several of "The 944 Gang" already set up including Mike Patterson and his "Big Lick Racing" rig, Ned Dowling and Dave Snow, and last but not least John Griesenbeck and his RV which had the air conditioning going full blast as it was in the upper 90's and very humid. John brought a guest with him for the weekend, J.D. McLure who is the Service and Parts Director at our new dealer, Porsche of Roanoke. As many of you know we have been trying to think of ways to get POR more involved in our events (and us with them) and John thought this would be a good way for J.D. to find out about us. For better or worse J.D. jumped right in and quickly became one of the gang. Welcome Aboard! As we were unloading several more members including Don Salisbury with his VW "wabbit" race car, Maury Hamill with his Cayman S, Al Durham, Danny Tester, Harry Hall and Charlie Schlepner who showed up with an empty trailer. It turned out Charlie had finally gotten serious about running in the very fast instructor group and was tired running in the back of the pack ;-) and went out and bought himself a true 944 S2 racecar. The boys at Big Lick Racing brought the car down in their hauler unbeknownst to everyone else!

After a great dinner and ice cream at "Bubba's we all went to bed with dreams of late apexing dancing in our heads.

Saturday turned out to be a little cooler and much more enjoyable as we all had a chance to get on the track and drive our Porsche's the way they were meant to be driven. Everyone's car was running great although I did have a severe vibration upon braking we later traced to warped rear rotors. Once we figured out the car was not going to explode I was able to concentrate on enjoying myself and improving my technique.

Another enjoyable pastime for me and the rest of the non instructors like Ned and J.D. was being able to watch the instructor group go out and play. Now you have to understand these guys have been running together

for years and have developed a very high level of trust and respect for each other. That experience allows them to get very close to each other lap after lap and it was truly a pleasure for us to watch them run with each other. When they came in you could see the smiles on their faces right through their helmets.

Sunday turned out to be a repeat of the day before and that afternoon we all packed up and drove home with promises to get together again soon. As several of us commented the track time is almost secondary to enjoying the good friendships which have developed over decades in some cases and the willingness to welcome new “brothas” into our group.

Til next time.

Eddie Fort



Above: Ed Clouser and Charlie Schlepner at VIR.
Below: Instructors play tag in turn 3 at VIR.

Photos: Ned Dowling



Survivor: Portland, Or Sally Carrera in Person

By: Caryl Hatch for Dick & Rick

Visiting the same area as we had done eleven years ago, we knew what to expect. Some things were torn down and new put in their place. We did not stay at Parade headquarters, but across the street with the others who read the lodging info. Quite a few at headquarters were unhappy when they found out what we had: a full breakfast, happy hour with great appetizers, small fridge and microwave in room included.

The meals were fantastic, the speeches too long and too many. Such a lot to do in a shorter time frame, did not lead to leisure. The Concours was at the Heron Lakes Golf Course, with *Sally Carrera* there in person or should I say auto, made a lot of children happy and photo bugs snapping away. I particularly got a kick out of a sign at the edge of the fairway where the Concours was staged "Park At Your Own Risk". How true, judges are crafty. Vic Elford was guest speaker at the Concours banquet. Hans Peter did not attend, had a bug, but Wolfgang and family did. A special evening at OMSI (a submarine to visit, lots of mind games and a movie to watch) was autocross awards night. No golf, but life seminars added (all about chocolate and Garden Art). I went to both - pigged out on all the different chocolate truffles; the garden talk I left, wanted to know about plants not placing a piece of art in among the plants. We also attended a couple of tech sessions, one of interest on 968s we both enjoyed.

The Zone Challenge was well attended. Our zone rep Jim Becker supplied us with nice collared Zone 2 shirts, we were the best dressed. The first contest was the Pit Stop - change all four tires and torque them. The second was the Porsche Pull – team members pulled a 911 across the finish line before the opposing team did. Loan Nguyen (our Exec. Dirs. wife) was the driver and I the passenger. The third was the Porsche Push Autocross, our team had a dnf and with a do over got the fastest time of the day, but we came in fourth, how they figured it I don't know. Needless to say Zone 2 came in fourth overall.

Our trip west (I – 90) was dry except for one frog strangler before we got to Minnesota, even the semi's pulled off on side roads, no stopping on the interstate in this one. Visited the Mall of America again, and looked forward to the Dakotas for a cool down, this did not happen until we

reached Glacier National Park. Had to go in the West entrance as the East entrance was on fire (Mick were you there?). This is a place to visit if you like quiet (no TVs or Radios), forests, rocky peaks, scenic stops and cool air. (Jacket and sweaters in AM). Drove up the Going to the Sun Road to see the glaciers, and sure enough they are melting. Views were spectacular, but I really like Yellowstone best. On to Grand Coulee Dam and Mount McKinley, historic road in the Columbia River gorge. Yep we are sightseers. Didn't do Mt. St. Helens this time nor Mt. Hood (forest fire). Coming back (I- 80) was a little cooler than going, the heat had headed east, but it's awful to go through the time zones and loose an hour each day.

The nicest thing about Parade is seeing old friends and making new ones. Are we going next year? You bet - San Diego, July 1 – 5, a day shorter, with one of the dinners on the ship "Midway" should be interesting. A trip to the Zoo at Balboa Park and the Wildlife Reserve up the road is on our itinerary. We were there in '92. Dick had better make trip reservations to and from, as I'm not about to do another 24 hours over the 4th weekend.



Dave "The Jedi Master" bestoying his wisdom to Charlie "Skywalker" Schleupner

Photo: Eddie Fort

PCA Headquarters Open House

I'd like to take this opportunity to invite you, your region officers and the members of the Blue Ridge region to attend PCA Headquarters Open House Event in Springfield, VA.

Details: PCA Open House Date: 10:00 am - 2:00 PM, September 30th

Tentative Schedule

- 10:00 Welcome/Social in parking lot
- 11:00 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- 12:00 Start guided tours
 - Led by Vu Nguyen
 - Present a bit of history, facts, and day-to-day activities
 - Tours will be at (12:00, 1:00, 1:30)
- Serve Refreshments and Light Snacks
- 1:00 Dent removal and/or car audio demonstrations
- 1:30 Raffle Door Prizes from local vendors

Rain date: TBD

So that we can better prepare, please RSVP to admin@pca.org for directions.

Fall AutoFair

Sunday the September 17th at Charlotte Motor Speedway

If you would like to participate I need your name, type of car including year, model and body style, mailing address and telephone number. I know you have provided most if not all of this in the past but some of you have had some changes and this is so our information will be up to date.

Contact miker911@aol.com

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EXHAUST NOTES

Last issue was filled with articles and only one picture. This issue is dedicated to the people who make our club successful. Most of us can identify a Porsche by its shape. Many of the event articles and pictures help put names and faces together, but we often do not know the people behind the wheel. On the cover is the Cayman of Jim Michaels who edited this newsletter 3 years. This month I have put more “people” pictures in BR. A Porsche is a machine, a club is an organization, and a driver is a person. But together they make a great experience. Thank you to the board members who organize the club, the club members, friends, and supporters who donate their time and money, and to Blue Ridge Region for the experience of a lifetime.

The September club meeting is scheduled at Porsche of Roanoke. This is the first meeting at that location. The relationship between PoR and BRR was slightly slow to materialize. However both organizations worked hard and the result is a new meeting place and good relations. Let us all support our closest dealer (for many of us) in whatever way we decide. PoR Service & Parts Manager J.D. McClure attended the last board meeting. We are working on some ideas, like 20% off parts and labor for BRR members, and I hope to have more details soon in Blau Rain. My experience with 2 other dealers was less than satisfactory. One had prices which should have been in zip code 90120, the other seemed disinterested. I intend to give PoR a try.

I was informed by Maury he did not take the picture credited to him in last month’s issue. I was unable to learn the photographer’s name.

Know no rules.

Dave Hogan, Editor

1967 Targa - the first “safety cabriolet.”

The Targa debuted with its now signature removable roof panel and stainless steel-clad roll bar. It also had a removable plastic rear window. The name was a nod to the Targa Floria road race, in which Porsche had notable success. The name also means shield in Italian. In fact, Porsche designed the Targa as a proactive solution to a U.S. ban on cabriolets, marketing it as a “safety cabriolet.” The ban never came, but the Targa lived on.

From: Porsche Cars North America



MARKT



-- **20' Enclosed 1993 Timberwolf Trailer**, white with chrome wheels and stone guards, interior walls and ceilings are finished in white, tire rack, checkerboard sheet flooring is worn and torn, but will throw a roll of 8' wide gray rubber diamond plate design sheet flooring intended to use on the floor, two of the four tires are brand new. \$3000.00 obo, Dennis Howard 410-733-1115 or RSAmer@aol.com

-- **DRIVER'S ED EQUIPMENT - ALL APPROVED FOR PCA EVENTS**

DAS-sportSystem bolt in, black rollbar for 964-993 Porsche cabriolet. Like new, no scratches, etc. Installation is easy and does not damage the upholstery. Can be removed in less than one hour and reinstalled quickly. All the installation, plates, bolts, installation instructions and specs. See das-sport.com for details. New cost is about \$1150 delivered. My price is \$700 plus shipping (I deliver free locally).

Racing helmet SA2005. Medium(7 1/8-7 1/4). White, open face. JEGs catalog no. GF 750 71-5403XXWH. See jegs.com for details. Bought recently and used once. My price is \$90. New cost is \$150 plus shipping. Gloves and neck support are free with the helmet.

Two sets of seat harness. Black, 3 inch. 5 point, latch type. Bought last fall and used once. JEGS catalog no. 471-6000BK. See jegs.com for details. My price is \$80. New cost is \$140 plus shipping.

Dave Schroeder 513-459-8006 6545 Rosemont Ln Mason, OH 45040 dandnschroeder@aol.com

-- **One pair of original Forged Club Sport wheels** (16" x 7") with Kuhmo Ecsta's 225/45 x 16 (75%). Wheels have curb rash but are great for track use. They are \$400 each refinished but you can have all of them for \$400 obo. Contact Eddie at 540-721-3678 between 6 – 9 PM or eddiefort@gmail.com.

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