

BLUE RIDGE REGION, PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA
WWW.BRR-PCA.ORG

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BLAU RAIN



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Send corrections and/or suggestions to: editor@brr-pca.org



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Meet your President for 2019

Our hard-working President of the past three years, Debbie Repass, has shifted gears by passing the gavel after serving this club with lots of hard work, dedication, and distinction. Finding her replacement was quite the challenge as few members felt qualified to follow in her footsteps. I accepted the nomination for the position only after getting assurances from all our board members and past presidents (six of whom attended my installation) they would help me get up to speed.

I have been a BRR-PCA member since May of 1988 and have served on our board since 2010 in various capacities, most recently as Business and Risk Chair, and general Board antagonist. Having over 40 years in the automotive service industry, and almost as many on the track, you might assume (correctly) I am a bit of a motorhead and track junkie, but fear not as I do have other interests. I have served over 25 years on the Disaster Response Board for the Virginia District Church of the Brethren and 23 years as the Volunteer Coordinator for Project WARM, a firewood resource for families in need around the Roanoke area. I am married to one of our clubs' sponsors (Mary of Brogan Insurance Agency) and we have 3 children. Jon, Jessy, and Nicki are now all in their 20s, but as young drivers each participated in our club's Street Survival driver training program and have gone on to promote and assist with many of our club's events.

Enough about me though, how about you? What interests do you have? How can YOUR club best serve you? Yes, we all have Porsches as a common interest but how do we use our collective interests to build our community? While my "talents" tend to be more technical in nature, our club is filled with people who you would love to meet I'm sure.

Want to do HPDE events, or just hang around fast cars? Got that covered. Many of our members are active drivers and/or instructors with ours and other regional clubs. We supply volunteers for our Zone 2 sponsored races as well as several historic events at VIR.

How about casual monthly "Cars and Coffee" gatherings on Saturday mornings? Yep, we got that too. This has to be our single most popular event and the best way for the newer and older members of our club to get to know each other and what we are about. With no RSVP required, you just show up and enjoy a laid-back breakfast and conversation with friends. Check our website, Facebook page, or Mick's "Monday Morning Porsche Piddlings" for one near you!

Got a strong Social Awareness streak? How about a Street Survival school to help our youthful drivers

become safer while having fun in the process? Having sponsored many of these over the years on our own, this past year our volunteers provided support to the Tarheel Chapter BMW CCA last May and are planning again for one in April 2019 – stay tuned for more details!

What about helping our greater community help themselves? We sponsor at least 4 non-profits each year that you get to choose from around our region. Even though we are a small club by national standards and are spread over a large geographic area, we take one of the founding principles of our club to heart – *"to promote the enjoyment and sharing of goodwill and fellowship engendered by owning a Porsche"*.

Take a minute and flip back to the page listing all our officers and board chair people – these are all members just like you and they do their best work when you get involved. As you read through this newsletter and learn a little more about us and what we do, maybe something will peak your interest and you will want to know more or maybe you have some ideas that we haven't thought of yet. Just contact any Officer or Board member with your ideas or better yet, join us at any event or meeting. Remember, this is your club and it works best when you get involved!

So, what can your club do for you?

Marc Wilson,

President

Welcome Marc. (Ed.)



Another view of our president in this 2010 photo by Jerry Hampton.

From Around The Web and In Print

This issue looks a little different than previous printed issues. The font size has been reduced from 12 to 10. The font size reduction results in smaller text and leaves room for larger pictures and a few more articles. The larger pictures will make it easier for the reader to see the things members saw during the events. The smaller font also means others and I have to write longer articles to cover the extra space. Editions of Blau Rain goes around the country and the world. Readers see not only what we do, but where we do it.

Our Facebook page is updated almost daily with event information, photographs of past events, Porsche and other auto news, and reminders and changes.

The good news is you do NOT have to have a Facebook account to see our Facebook page. Go to our website at www.brr-pca.org and click the "Facebook" button on the left then bookmark our Facebook page as it is that easy to stay current on BRR events and happenings, or use your favorite search engine. It is that easy. We have followers from around the world.

Monday Morning Porsche Piddlings is emailed to members each week. Along with the important announcements, a calendar of events is included. Other interesting tidbits are included and will make you laugh or cringe. The Porsche Gone Bad section may make you sad, but

check it out anyway.

Statistics show our website is being used less each year. Faster means of communication are taking its place. Whatever your preference, Blue Ridge Region is communicating with you.

2019 has been a fun year in Blue Ridge region. Socials and Cars 'n Coffee gave an activity for everyone. And many participated in all several activities. We do have something for everyone! The 2019 the fun continues. Driver education events at VIR are planned by several groups. Cars 'n Coffee continues each month. A variety of activities await you. We try to have something for most everyone.

Article: Dave Hogan

Charities 2018

Our club is a charitable organization. Each year we raise funds for charity with proceeds going to charities we select from our region. During 2018 we donated \$1000 to each of four charities across our region. One charity is chosen from a different area in Blue Ridge Region. Additionally we donate to other charities during the year as voted by the board.

The generosity of our members allows us to give back some of our

good fortune. Some members may have used one of our charities, some may use one in the future.

Our donations allow the charities to help others during their tough time of need. We are happy to help our friends in need. Donations are welcome throughout the year.

Thank you for your support.

Article & Photo: Dave Hogan



This retro photograph is from the Planning Session in January of 2009. Among the events were a St. Patrick's Day party at Michelsen's, a Tech Session & BBQ at Martin's German Service, Survivor Games at the Sowers, A visit to the Taubman/Link Museums and lunch, and our Annual Christmas Dinner and Charity Auction.

President Jerry Hampton guided us through the year with help from Vice President Gary Templeton, Secretary Mick Michelsen, and Treasurer Eddie Fort with many more.

Photo: Dave Hogan

Tri-Region Spring Tour 2019

Article and photos: Dave Hogan, except as noted, some content excerpted from the brochure.

The Hurricane, Carolinas, and Blue Ridge regions assembled a Tri-Region Spring Tour 2019 at The Resort at Glade Springs in Daniels, West Virginia. The Tri-Region Spring Tour 2019 was a world class gathering of cars, camaraderie, scenic drives, and dinners paired with wonderful wines chosen by wine expert, Bryan Tucker.

Two days of activities were planned, one with a choice of scenic drives and the next a day with a morning car show then sightseeing in the area, enjoying activities at the resort, just or relaxing. An elegant meal, with door prizes ended both days. Even though it rained each day it occurred at convenient times and did little to dampen spirits.

One drive went to Paint Bank, Virginia and back with a driving time of about 4.5 hours, total travel time about 6 hours. The itinerary included West Virginia scenic roads leading into Virginia. Lunch was a la carte at the Swinging Bridge Restaurant in the Paint Bank General Store in Paint Bank, VA.

The other drive was a circle drive to Babcock State Park, New River Gorge Bridge and Daniel Winery. Approximately 3 hours driving time, total travel time about 6.5 hours. The drive paralleled the New River for a distance, stopped at Sandstone Falls visitor center, continued to the grist mill in Babcock State Park, stopped at the Canyon Rim Visitor Center

for a picnic lunch (box lunches were available from the resort), drove under the New River Gorge Bridge, and then stopped at the Daniel Winery for wine tasting. A small thunderstorm arrived while we were at the winery, so everyone watched the rain and enjoyed the amenities of the winery.

There was only one minor malfunction as one car developed a slow leak in two tires. Even that had a humorous side as related in the article on page six.

It was a fun and friendly event. We made new friends and caught up with old ones. The resort was first class and the activities kept everyone busy.



Photo: Tri-Region Tour

The group taking the Babcock State Park, New River Gorge Bridge, and Daniel Winery drive.

Tri-Region Spring Tour 2019

Captions and photos: Dave Hogan, except as noted.



We got the dress code. Did you miss the memo?



Grist mill at Babcock State Park.



Gary and Donna parked outside Daniel Vineyards.



Photo: Laura Hogan

Part of our caravan going to the New River Gorge.



The New River Gorge bridge from below.

Photo: Donna Templeton



Part of our group at Glade Springs Resort.

Cars 'n Coffee

Article and Photos: Dave Hogan, except as noted.

Cars 'n Coffee is our monthly casual social event. It is open not only to PCA members, but also all Porsche owners, guests, and anyone willing to listen to us talk about our cars.

Held at 9:30 AM each month in a different area within our region, it gives an opportunity for all members to meet and socialize. Weather permitting a lot of socializing happens in the parking lot before

and after the brunch. These events usually have the largest attendance of our events with numbers ranging from 20-30 people. Some of the places we enjoyed in 2018 are Blue Apron in Salem, Carol's Place in Forest, Mac and Bob's in Salem, Old Oak Cafe in Moneta, The Great Room in Lynchburg, and Dale's Diner in Montvale. Each location has its own

atmosphere and specialty. Not only are these brunches an excellent social opportunity, but a chance to learn more good places to dine. Many locations offer other things to do after eating. So drive your Porsche and join us. Casual is the word and good friends are there with you. Dates & places are on our website and Facebook page, and in Monday Morning Porsche Piddlings.



After Cars 'n Coffee, a stop at Mark's nearby garage. Photo: Gene Reed



Margaret and Christa socialize before brunch.



Mick flashes his 914 and big smile. Even rain & snow cannot dampen the day.



Our first Cars 'n Coffee of 2019 was held in rain & snow weather.



Some of our cars at Old Oak Cafe.

The car that would not lose

In recent Blue Ridge Region history, no event is more popular than the monthly Cars 'n Coffee. These events produce the largest crowds and the most Porsche vehicles. One feature of these events is when Mick enlists the aid of a nearby child to select their favorite Porsche of those in the parking lot. And so our story begins.

Among the past events one Blue Ridge Region member, who likes the color white, seemed to have the most popular car. The white cars are affectionately known as the Snowmobile. When the Snowmobile is present everyone knows there is a very high

likelihood of it being selected as favorite. No matter how many different styles or colors the other Porsches have, the Snowmobile tops them all. When the Snowmobile is not present others have hope their car will be selected and they can take home the trophy.

A recent event was held at The Resort at Glade Springs in West Virginia. Among the attendees was the Snowmobile. Since there was a "car you would like to drive home" car show scheduled, everyone wondered if the Snowmobile would take home another trophy. On the way to West Virginia, karma seemed to strike the Snowmobile.

First one tire, then two, developed a slow leak. Fortunately, after stops to refill the tires, the Snowmobile limped into the parking lot. Far from home, and with few options, a truck was called to retrieve the stricken Snowmobile and return it home.

The morning of the car show, and just before the show began, a truck arrived and the Snowmobile started home. Blue Ridge Region members began to have hope their car would now be selected as one of the three most popular. After all, the Snowmobile was not in the show. Good luck for the other Blue Ridge Region members you say? Well,



Photo: Donna Templeton

karma went the other way at the awards ceremony that night. While no Blue Ridge Region members' car won the most popular, there was one other award to be given, the Chairman's Award. With the theme "car you would like to drive home" the chairman decided the one carried home was the one most wanted to be driven home. So, it seems this car can win awards even when it is not there. There is little hope other Blue Ridge Region members will win the prized trophy as long as the Snowmobile is present, and now, even when it is not present. Dave, have you driven that car to buy a lottery ticket?



Photo: Tri-Region Tour

Various Blue Ridge Region Events

Captions and photos: Dave Hogan



An early 911 and its newer sibling provide eye candy for people entering & leaving the restaurant.

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Blue Ridge Region members do not let a little wet weather keep them from good food and a friendly meeting. Photo: Dave Hogan

Pictures from 2019

Photos: Dave Hogan, except as noted





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- Everett Backe, *General Service Manager*
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Grist mill and stream in West Virginia. Can you see who is standing at the mill?

Photo: Dave Hogan

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This 911 brought its smaller brother to the cruise-in.

Photo: Dave Hogan

FINISH LINE

It has been a fun and exciting year in Blue Ridge Region. Our club exists because of its people.

Dedicated volunteers make it possible. Our sponsors, advertisers, and supporters contribute both money and time to make us successful. Please remember to support those who support us.

Thank you to each person and each organization, contributors to our

success in 2019. Without you we are not a club.

Lastly, Porsche Club of America with its organization and support make Parade, Treffen, DEs, and many other events possible.

Whether your participation in PCA goes from Panorama reader to attending all our events, a large team and many hours go into planning and execution.



Right: Carol & Dick Hatch with their former 912 and its new owners. Photo: unknown



Ellen and Jo discuss the trophy win.

Photo: Dave Hogan



Do you know who our leaders are? See our contacts list inside the front cover and know. We are here to serve our club. And you can help by volunteering for one of the positions your club needs to be filled. Attend a club meeting and find out how you can help your club, and feel good about it.

Photo: Dick Hatch

Magazine Credits:

Front Cover Photo: Dave Hogan. Porsche targa at Daniel Vineyards during the Tri-Region tour.

Page 14 Finish Line article: Dave Hogan

Back Cover Photo: Dave Hogan. Cars parked at Chateau Morrisette.

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Blau Rain*

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PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

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Uncredited photos and articles are by the editor.


Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at Bellacino's Pizza & Grinders, 1176 Roanoke Road, Daleville, VA, and are open to the general membership. Please join us.

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



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Sometimes the end looks as good as the beginning

Das Ende