



Flight News: January 2012

New Slate of Officers Elected at Holiday Party

This year's Holiday Party at the Eau Gallie Yacht Club drew 124 members and guests in the beautiful main dining room overlooking the Indian River and the annual boat parade. Porsche of Melbourne provided a pianist that played seasonal tunes throughout the reception and dinner—just lovely. A variety of special gift items were displayed including Porsche and SPC attire, autographed copies of Derek Bell's recently released autobiography, and limited-edition "tribute" plaques containing a copy of the Certificate of Authenticity from STS-135 and logo lapel pin like those flown aboard the last flight of Shuttle Atlantis. A few of these items are still available for sale.

Each place setting included a 2012 calendar, featuring member's pictures. Space Coast's annual meeting contained a bit of a twist after the routine reports on membership, finances from Treasurer Tom Kirk, and events by Steve Hoffman. Tom Gorsuch interrupted the nominating committee report to announce that, earlier in the week, David O'Neal had been appointed as the new Zone 12 Representative by PCA's Executive Committee. A new slate of officers was presented and elected by unanimous consent: President: Steve Hoffman, Vice President: Blake Blakely, Secretary: Lou Linden, and Treasurer: Tom Kirk. An organizational meeting will be held in January 2012 to fill the balance of Board of Director positions for 2012.

Tom Gorsuch provided photos and an extensive report on his driving impressions of the new Porsche 911 (991). Tom and Elaine had just returned from Cape Town, South Africa where Porsche hosted a series of "launches" with dealers and club officials from around the world. 250 Porsche clubs were represented at the event and 80 new 991's were made available to the club representatives throughout the week. As one would expect, the car was exceptional – an improvement to all previous models. Bottom line: Tom said to Shay Rowe, "You're going to sell a lot of these cars".

Several presentations were made throughout the event honoring our sponsors, advertisers and contributors to SPC's award-winning **Escape Velocity** newsletter. Porsche of Melbourne's Donna Edwards was presented with a special gift from SPC's members for her dedication and attention to details that make events like the Sunrise to Sunset Rallies flow smoothly. Steve Hoffman was recognized for his extraordinary efforts in getting the SPC logo pins onto the Space Shuttle and given a framed copy of the Certificate, a logo pin, and a copy of the August

2011 *PANORAMA* featuring Ralph Fritsche's 993 next to the Space Shuttle Atlantis on its cover— Steve's car had been edited out of the shot to fit the format. Finally, Tom Gorsuch and Steve Hoffman presented David O'Neal with a leather binder containing a recognition letter from the SPC Board, copies of *Escape Velocity*, and the Region of the Year Submittal.

Special thanks go to the 25 staff members/guests from Porsche of Melbourne in attendance; they enhance our ownership experience on a daily basis. We also thank the dealership for its financial support of our events; the growth our club has achieved would not have been possible without the commitment of Shay. Thanks also to our door prize donors: Porsche of Melbourne, Glover Oil Company, and Blake Blakely Photography.

