



## AutoCross Challenge

It was just like an old western movie—two gunfighters standing in the hot, dusty street, their eyes squinted against the bright sun. One had “called out” the other and it was time to see who was fastest.

Well, it was almost like that. Let’s see, the gunfighters were at the wheels of their Porsches, It was warm (but at 7AM, not hot), the area of competition was well-paved, and the timing was electronic.

But we had been called out—no doubt about it. We’d been challenged by the Citrus region, a bigger and much more experienced adversary to a match on their home turf. Was there a champion to be found among us?



We walked the course, trying desperately to remember the twists and turns the route that had surely been laid out by someone still suffering from a late night. In moments, we would each try to navigate between the bright Orange cones at breakneck (OK, OK, maybe that’s a poor choice of words) speed.



Hours later, it was over. Things would have ended a bit earlier but Ryan Gorsuch (Tom’s son) had to get in a few last gasp runs to eliminate the fraction of a

second lead between them. The results were in and area available to all on our website. Suffice it to say that (with the exception of Johnathan Parker’s 2, count `em 2-wheeled performance in his race-



prepared early 911) it wasn’t real pretty. This writer finished last—well behind my wife, who (weeks later) is still moving about the house muttering (in her best “Dirty Harry” Callahan voice) “Man’s gotta know his limitations”.

We’ll do this again during Porschefest at Mount Dora over Memorial Day weekend. It’s really great fun and you owe it to your car to give it a try.

Jack Roberts, Editor

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# More Than a Car—Tom Gorsuch, Space Coast Region President

As they say, time flies when you're having fun—and we are having fun! Since the last newsletter we have picnicked at the polo fields, drove to the Sebring 12 Hours race, celebrated the new Porsche Cayenne, challenged Citrus Region to an auto-cross, rallied along lesser known back roads, and cruised some of the region's more scenic river roads. Read more here and view extensive photos of our events on our website. By invitation from the Gold Coast Region, we participated in a weekend party with concours in Palm Beach and a Drivers Education at Moroso. You can read about the Gold Coast Region events at their website, [www.goldcoastregion.org](http://www.goldcoastregion.org). It's great to see familiar and new faces at each event as the Space Coast Region enthusiasm grows. Florida is the place to be in late winter and early spring if you love sports cars. Of course our events will continue, just check out our summer calendar in this issue.

Space Coast Region is currently the fastest growing region in PCA as calculated on a percentage basis. It would be great fun to get recognition at the end of the year for our growing enthusiasm so keep talking it up and inviting your friends. If you know someone with a Porsche, or looking to buy a Porsche, invite them to an event. We can also send out information, postcards and newsletters to the curious if you can let one of the



officers know. Porsche of Melbourne is doing their part forwarding club information to new Porsche owners and paying first year membership for their interested customers. Thank-you Porsche of Melbourne.

About half of our membership participates in region events while everyone receives the club Panorama and newsletters. I began membership as an information gatherer many years ago. Now I understand the club offers a diverse set of activities such that there is surely some event of interest for everyone. The events are typically no-cost, well run, and always friendly. You will find someone at any event who shares your particular Porsche passion, even if it is "My significant other is a Porsche nut, how do I cope with that?" I thought it might help to share some club demographics (below) so you get some view of the diversity in membership. As we work to expand the events offered by our region, we

are seeking volunteers from north region (Daytona and north) and from south region (Vero and south) to be North and South Event Coordination Officers on our team. Please let me know if you would be interested in helping out in this way.

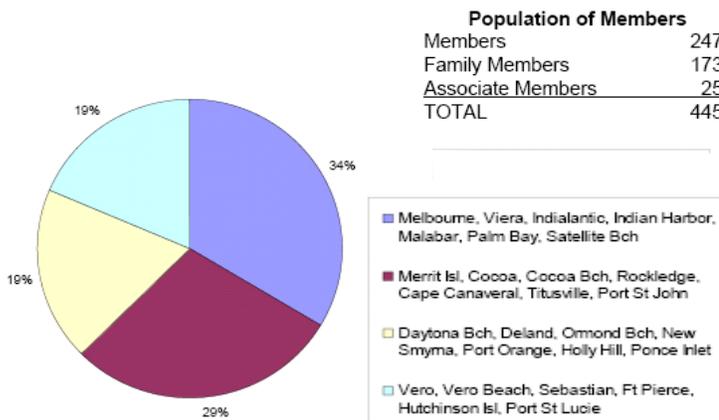
In addition to regional events, the club also offers excellent opportunities at the national level. The annual Parade encompasses all things PCA in one Porsche packed week. This year's Parade is in San Diego, the first week of July. A few Space Coast Region members will make this event including myself. If you have any ideas you would like conveyed at the national officers meetings, you can forward those to myself or Bob Barren our Zone 12 Representative. Next year's Parade will be much closer to home in Charlotte, NC so hopefully the east coast location will attract more of our Space Coast Region members.

PCA members bring their passion for Porsche to life through participation, volunteering, and membership recruiting. Let us hear from you!

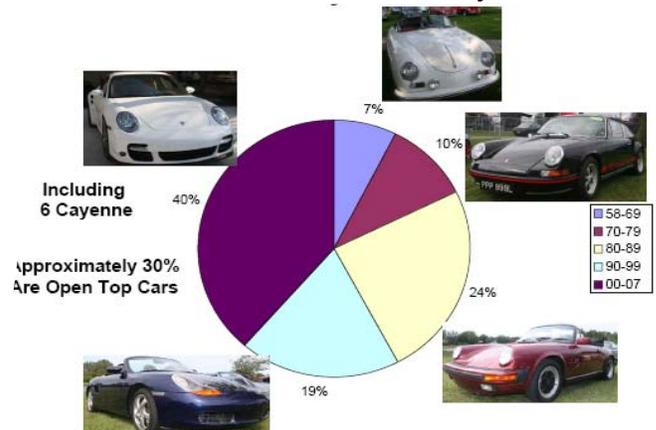
*Tom*

tgorsuch@cfl.rr.com

## Our Membership by City



## Our Cars by Decade



# Porsches and Polo

It was a glorious 80-degree Sunday—the kind that makes you glad to be a Floridian. From all over central Florida, Porsches converged on Vero Beach’s Windsor, an exclusive enclave and home of wonderful equestrian facilities, for the Space Coast



Region’s annual “Porsches & Polo” event. Chaired by Treasurer Kirk Stowers, the event attracted nearly 70 Porsches and their proud owners and raised more than \$1,000 for the Susan B. Kolman Breast Cancer Awareness Foundation.

Kirk also serves as Membership officer for the Florida Owners Group (FOG) of type 356s and was instrumental in creating this event, so we had a particularly great turnout of early cars, including a record Five Speedsters!



Once we had the cars lined up along the field, the tables, chairs, and picnic baskets appeared. Atop them went fine linens, great food, and

some really terrific champagne provided for the event by **Shay and Monica Rowe, owners of Porsche of Melbourne**, who kept the bub-



bles flowing from the back of Monica’s Turbo Cayenne. Directly in front of us, the colorfully attired riders and their ponies flew up and down the field in an amazing display of horsemanship. There were so many sudden, wholly unanticipated changes of direction I was reminded of the first time I drove my 911SC in the rain!

The time flew by with the horses as the teams completed six 7-minute chukkers. The Parker girls pitched



in by taking part in the traditional half-time “divot stomp”.

Kirk tallied the votes and presented the **Peoples’ Choice Awards**:



**Water-Cooled Division**—won by Frank & Joan Furci’s 2004 996.



**Air-cooled Division**—Greg Lambert and his black 930 Turbo



**356 Open Division**—Mike Owens’ ’59 Speedster



**Closed Division**—Terry Davis’ ’64 SC coupe.

Tom Gorsuch, Space Coast Region President, congratulated the award winners and thanked the attendees for their generosity to such a good cause.

*JR*

# 12 Hours of Sebring



The New Haven Wal-Mart at 5:30 AM on the morning of March 17th was cold and dark. But I had company—I'd dragged Lois out with me and we found John Blakely, Christian Funk, Doug Waters, Dave and Mary O'Neal, and Ralph Fritsche already there. We shared the parking lot with only a Brevard County Sheriff, who must have been very curious as to what all those Porsches were doing there. He had rolled down his window with interest, just in time to hear Ralph announce in his big voice..."Jack,



you're the only one with a radar detector—you lead the way".

Fortunately, the sheriff must have been laughing too hard to follow and after a few miles on 192, we turned South on 441 and accelerated into the dark.

We arrived at Sebring to be greeted by a less than characteristically well-groomed region president Tom Gorsuch. Tom claimed to have been ducking photographers from

GQ all morning, but finally admitted to having spent the night upon the sodden ground next to his car. Elaine, it seems, did not accompany Tom on this trip (no dummy, that Elaine).

With nearly a couple of hours before the race would start, Lois and I embarked on a tour of the vendor area, where we came across Ralph Fritsche selecting his wardrobe for the coming year. He enthusiastically explained that the really good deals on t-shirts come on the last day. We also toured the food booths, which featured elephant ears, Bloody Marys, and included the world's biggest barbecue dishing out Johnsonville brats smothered in onions (burp!). But it's not about the food or the t-shirts, it's about the cars. There was a full-house in the Porsche corral with late arrivals being tucked away over by the Corvettes somewhere (Tip #1—come early). I haven't seen so many Porsches in one spot in a long, long time. While on our walk we ran into Space Coasters Don & Robin Grainger, Eckhardt Schneider, and Jerry Kowalski. There were also twelve full hours of racing (a whole twelve hours of non-stop racing) and let me tell you that the racing was loud, really loud and

it just went on and on and on (Tip #2—don't forget your earplugs). We'd never been to an endurance race before, but now know what that term really means! We watched the goings on for several hours, but in late afternoon, we DNF'd. We hopped into our Boxster and drove home at a leisurely pace and watched the end of the race on Speed Channel where we could control the volume.

In the end, it was an OK showing for Porsche, with a podium finish by a new RS Spyder and a 2nd and 3rd in



GT2. Lois picked out a new helmet bag, some driving shoes and I bought a Porsche cap and polo shirt to round out my wardrobe. We had a great breakfast and lunch, ran into some old friends and made some new ones. All in all, a great day—can't wait 'til next year!

## We Drove the Ormond Loop

I gotta tell you, getting up for a 7:30 breakfast wasn't easy, but it proved



to be worthwhile. A lot of planning goes into these tours and we saw beautiful scenery, tight corners, and long straights, finishing off with a fine lunch at the River Grill. Don't miss the next "road trip".

## It's MY Story!

I was in that limbo time between



college and my first real job. I was living the single guy dream in a nice house with a few fraternity brothers as roommates. In the garage I had a '74 911 Targa and a new Harley Davidson low rider. This was well before the current Harley craze, so I was a trendsetter. Well, maybe not, but I do know that I had more oil leaks on my garage floor than any of the neighbors.

Anyway, reality has a way of finding each of us and here is how it found me in that spring...The 911 was in

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**West Melbourne, Florida**

## Submitted by Ralph Fritsche

**So, what's your story? Everybody's got one (or two, or three) that could be printed here for everyone's enjoyment. Please forward yours (pictures, too) to the editor.**

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the shop in Orlando for a tune (no Porsche dealer in Melbourne back then). Just as we were leaving Saturday morning, Dad called to say HI and mentioned something about news reports of a "sinkhole" forming



near the shop. I was new to Florida then and the word had little meaning. Besides, I was on my way to have some fun.

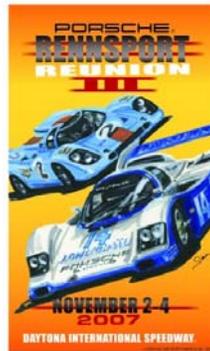


That evening my buddies and I returned home feeling the effects of too much sun and suds. We turned on the TV to see a picture of a building, just as the back wall gave way and my Targa slid into a gigantic hole in the ground. Reality doesn't bite, it swallows.

*Ralph*

# Rennsport Reunion III Update—We'll keep the light on for you!

As you know from our last issue, RSR3 is returning to our region November 2-4. To add even more fun, we're negotiating to reserve a limited number of rooms at the best hotel in town. In addition to the normal amenities you'd expect from a great ocean-front resort such as **great views**, a **SPA**, the **pool**, the **beach**, and a location just 10 minutes from Daytona International Speedway, we plan on providing **reserved Porsche parking!** Tentative plans also include a **big party** on Friday



night, so **watch your e-mail for more details** as we finalize all this over the next few weeks.

We're also looking for volunteers to help us lead model-specific parking corrals. Let us know if you can volunteer some of the weekend—the camaraderie and perks will be worth your effort. To help out, send an e-mail Spacecoast Region President Tom Gorsuch at [tgorsuch@cfl.rr.com](mailto:tgorsuch@cfl.rr.com).

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## Street lethal.

It pulls no punches. The GT3 RS packs a 3.6 liter flat-six engine that delivers 415 hp and a top track speed of 193 mph fresh out of the factory. One of Zuffenhausen's finest, it travels from zero to 60 in just four seconds. Lightweight carbon fiber from your seat to its magnificent rear wing, all wrapped in a track-honed widebody stance. It's not afraid to challenge any road, track or driver. Porsche. There is no substitute.

## Introducing the 911 GT3 RS.

### Porsche of Melbourne

[www.porscheofmelbourne.com](http://www.porscheofmelbourne.com)  
509 East NASA Blvd  
Melbourne, Florida  
800-719-7038



**PORSCHE**

#### New 2007 Porsche

- 2007 911 Turbo, 6 Speed, black/black
- 2007 911 Carrera 4 S Cabriolet, 6 Speed, White/Sand
- 2007 911 Targa 4 S, 6 Speed, Atlas Gray, Stone
- 2007 911 Carrera 4 S Coupe, 6 Speed, Arctic Silver/Black
- 2007 911 Carrera S Cabriolet, 6 Speed, Red/Sand, Black/Black, Meteor Gray/Black
- 2007 911 Carrera S Coupe, tiptronic, black/tan
- 2007 911 Carrera Coupe, tiptronic, black/tan
- 2007 Boxster, tiptronic, Cobalt Blue/sea blue

#### Pre-Owned Inventory

- 2008 Turbo, 6 Speed, black/black, 23200 miles, VIN 9685385
- 2005 Cayenne Turbo, Base! Black/lead, 18000 miles, VIN LA92209
- 2005 Carrera S Coupe, 6 Speed, White/Sea Blue, 3400 miles, VIN 8741243
- 2005 Carrera Coupe, 6 Speed, Atlas Gray/black, 27900 miles, loaded with options, VIN 8715202
- 2005 Cayenne, Silver/black, only 4500 miles, VIN LA27052
- 2008 Carrera Cabriolet, 6 Speed, Black/black, only 8500 miles, VIN 9652781
- 2001 Carrera Cabriolet, tiptronic, Seal Gray/gray, 35000 miles, VIN 9654691
- 2004 Carrera Cabriolet, tiptronic, Arctic Silver/black, 27000 miles, VIN 9652899
- 2002 Carrera Coupe, 6 Speed, Black/gray, 46700 miles, VIN 9620366

## After Tax Day Rally

On April 22, fourteen Porsche Rally Teams met at **Porsche of Melbourne** for the Space Coast Region's annual "After Tax Day Rally". Porsche GM Horst Seibert was the



perfect host as the dealership provided refreshments and many great cars to check out. A big "Thank You" to Porsche of Melbourne!

This year, our Rally ran through the streets of Melbourne, West Melbourne, Palm Bay, and Indialantic. The 41 mile route provided sixty-eight intriguing clues. For the third year in a row, the Rally route included a street with "Speed Humps". One of the Rally questions asked: "Hey, how many *Speed Bumps* was that?" Other clues included things like trying to spot a 10 inch statue that was sitting by the front door of a house and the clue that asked the teams to turn on the street named after a famous *Rodgers and Hammerstein* musical. (The answer was *Oklahoma*) During the after Rally dinner, one Rally team asked: "Who are Rodgers and Hammerstein?"



**1st Place—Terry Cadle and Dan Wagner**

The Rally ended at Crisper's Res-

taurant in Indian Harbor Beach. Two teams tied by only missing three clues each, so the tie-breaking bonus question came into play. The winning team correctly answered "What model Porsche is on the April cover of *Panorama?*" (The answer was *911 GT3 Cup Car*). This secured first place for the team of Driver Dan Wagner and Navigator Terry Cadle.

Coming in at a very close second place was the team of Driver/Navigator team of Eckhardt & Joanne Schneider



**2nd Place—Eckhardt & Joanne Schneider**

Please think about joining us next year for this annual fun event. This writer is sure the "*Speed Bumps*" clue will not be asked. Or will it? After all, the Rally Master is **always** right!

*Brian*

Brian Reinert, VP & Rally Master

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## 2008 Cayenne Introduction Party

It was just like the way they used to do it, when a dealer would invite a select group of buyers to a private reception and the introduction of a new model. But this wasn't the old days and this wasn't just any dealership or just any car. This was **Porsche of Melbourne** and this was the introduction of the 2008 Porsche Cayenne to the members of Spacecoast Region.

Originally launched in 2002, the Cayenne stunned the automotive world by combining performance and utility. Since then, the Cayenne has become a staple in the Porsche product line and has helped the company to set new sales records in each of the past 3 years. With three models, topped by the 500 HP Turbo, which offers Carrera-like performance (0-60 in 4.9 seconds and a 171 mph top end) this car is unquestionably a Porsche.

Thank you, **Shay and Monica** for having all of us over to see your new car—we liked it a lot! By the way, if you missed the intro, you missed the brunch buffet (see picture below). It's always a big mistake to skip events at **Porsche of Melbourne**—write that down so you remember it.



## Coming Club Events

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**May 25-27. PorscheFest at Mt. Dora.** Concours, autocross, socials. Multi-region event. Sign up at [www.driverregistration.com](http://www.driverregistration.com). Hotel info at [www.flcitrusregion.org](http://www.flcitrusregion.org) calendar. If you can't swing the weekend, drop in for just a day and see the cars!

**June 23rd. Dinner at Pumpernickels & PCA 50th Video.** Summer cruise to Titusville and a German Dinner at 7PM. RSVP by June 20th to [tgorsuch@cfl.rr.com](mailto:tgorsuch@cfl.rr.com).

**July 14th. Go-Kart Evening at Andretti Theme Park.** How about drivers education in a rental? Track heats starting at 6PM. Bench racing and dinner at 8PM.

**August 18th. 356 Tech Session at Stower's 356 Shop.** Starting at 10 AM, BBQ at noon. \$10/person. Location is 2495 Jen Drive, North Melbourne. RSVP by Aug 16th to [kstowers@cfl.rr.com](mailto:kstowers@cfl.rr.com).

## Other Items of Interest (Non-Region, but still fun)

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**November 2,3,4. Rennsport Reunion III (RSR3) at Daytona.** Don't miss this huge international event right in our own region. Watch your e-mail for event and Spacecoast Region hotel registration information—see page 6.

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Merritt Island, FL 32952

