

4. Reports

Porsche Club do Brasil

Class Reunion: 20th Porsche Sport Driving School in Brazil

The Porsche Sport Driving School has a long tradition in Brazil, one that continued last year with the Porsche Club do Brasil in Curitiba hosting its 20th Porsche Sport Driving School in Brazil.

To celebrate this anniversary, the Porsche Club hosted a Porsche Parade from September 22nd to 23rd 2007. More than 60 Porsche vehicles were involved, a record for Curitiba. The event programme included competitions such as the "Regularidade", timed races where drivers had to keep to strict time requirements and average speeds, and a Flying Lap – three laps at top speed, where the best of three laps decides the winner.

The complete range of Porsche sports cars roared over the racetrack, from the 911 Carrera, the Boxster and the Cayman right up to a handful of Cayennes. The winners of the "Regularidade" races included a unprecedented number of female Boxster drivers and co-drivers.

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Porsche Club Seetal Luzern

Train Like a Professional: Porsche Club Driver Training at Magny-Cours

The Porsche Centre AMAG Zug and the Porsche Club Seetal Luzern organised a joint three-day driver and safety training event from September 2nd to 6th 2007 at the Formula 1 racetrack at Magny-Cours. This third training event was a resounding success, not least because of the presence of professional racing driver Marcel Fässler.

The first day was dedicated to vehicle handling and how to deal with hazardous situations. Under the instruction of sports director Heinz Arnold, participants were divided into groups, each under the guidance of two instructors. They learnt how to approach and drive through bends, mastered evasion manoeuvres and practised controlling a vehicle nearing its handling limits.

On the second day of training, it was time to go out onto the track to experience some pure driving pleasure. Under guidance, the drivers practiced following the ideal line with the braking, turning and apex points.

With customers of the Porsche Centre AMAG Zug being given the opportunity to receive some training on Monday and on Tuesday morning, the race track was open to Club members on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday. This gave the 41 "racers" from the Club the perfect opportunity to put the Porsche driving dynamics to the test while at the same time honing their own driving skills. One of the highlights of the day was an appearance by professional racing driver Marcel Fässler, who took the opportunity to train for the racing series with his co-driver.

The Porsche Centre AMAG Zug provided a Porsche mechanic and workshop



vehicle for the duration of the event. The Club would like to thank all its sponsors, the organisers Martin Kammerbauer and Heinz Arnold and the volunteers for their dedication to this successful third driver and safety training event.

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Porsche Club Deutschland

25 Years of Porsche Club Deutschland: In All Its Splendour

25 years of Porsche Club Deutschland – what better reason to spend a couple of thrilling days in the midst of the Porsche family in Stuttgart.

There was a huge farewell parade for the outgoing President of the Porsche Club Deutschland, Ilse Nädele. The “old-timers” and friends from Italy, Sweden, Luxembourg, France, Scotland and England quite naturally made the most of the opportunity to say an official goodbye to “their Ilse”.

The rainy days running up to the parade would not have gone down well with the Cabriolet drivers, so everyone was hoping for better weather. And as it turned out, the Porsche drivers were blessed

with three glorious September days with bright blue skies and pleasant temperatures.

The special weekend got started on Thursday at the Maritim Hotel in the centre of Stuttgart. Participants received the event goody bag on arrival. The light-blue T-shirts with the 25th anniversary logo were a particular hit. If you wore blue you were a participant; those in green belonged to the organisational team.

And the organisers had plenty to do! At the final count there were more than 400 people to serve at dinner that evening. The close ties between the company and the Porsche family were underscored by the presence of Hans-

Peter Porsche, who mingled constantly with the participants throughout the event. Bernhard Maier, Managing Director of Porsche Deutschland GmbH, gave the opening speech. “I personally think of the Porsche Clubs as a large family whose members are scattered not only throughout Germany but across the entire globe. This year they have found their way to the Swabian metropolis to celebrate in the midst of the Porsche family. Together with you, the Porsche Clubs, we will put all our efforts into ensuring that our brand is successful in the long term.”

By Friday the sky was already bright blue. Over 200 Porsche vehicles were exhibited in the Concours d'Elégance, held in the courtyard of the baroque





castle built by Duke Eberhard Ludwig (also known as the “Swabian Versailles”). The vehicles proved how beautifully classic cars can blend with the glow of past centuries. Each participant was welcomed by Ilse Nädele and Hans-Peter Porsche with a handshake and a few personal words.

The cars were classified into groups and displayed, freshly cleaned and pol-

ished, to the Ludwigsburg crowd, the participants and the strict panel of judges. Many of those taking part seized the opportunity to have a free guided tour around the 300-year-old baroque castle.

In the evening, things moved on to Güglingen in Zabergäu. More than 400 Porsche friends were invited to this ancient noble wine cellar. Five buses fer-

ried the guests along the charming country roads through lovingly restored villages, to be welcomed in the court of the restaurant “Deutscher Hof” with a glass of red or white wine.

It was so mild in the evening that some people made themselves at home in the gardens, preferring to sit under the clear and starry Swabian sky rather than the dignified wooden beams. The ambience among the guests was simply wonderful. The buffet was plentiful and the beer and Württemberg wine flowed, and as such people soon took to the dance floor. As there was a long Porsche tour to come the next day, the official part of the evening came to an end at around midnight and the guests were taken back to the hotel.

On Saturday, everyone met at the Porsche Centre at Stuttgart airport. In excited anticipation, the participants received the goody bag, the log book and the food provided for the first 145 km. Colleagues and helpers from Porsche Deutschland and the Porsche Centre had worked hard to plot the sports route, tourist route and direct route on well over 100 maps using coloured markers. Hans-Peter Porsche again mingled with “his” customers, accompanied by Sandra Mayr from the worldwide Porsche Club Coordination Team and her colleague, Anne Philipp.

The sports route was 250 km long with two time trials and 12 questions. The tourist route was 195 km long with one time trial, 12 questions and 3 further “guesswork” questions.

Reading a log book is one thing; following it is another. Although the route was accurately set out in the log book, most teams made it hard for themselves. But

the beautiful weather and the winding, almost empty country roads allowed them to enjoy “driving in its purest form”. Some gave up looking at the dashboard and the distance being covered!

After all those glorious kilometres on the road, the participants savoured the final hours leading up to the big evening gala event. It is always amazing how people manage to fit a dinner suit, evening dress, make-up bag and various pairs of shoes into a 356, a classic 911, a Boxster or a Cayman. Obviously Cayenne owners don't have to worry about that.

The “Old riding hall” (“Alte Reithalle”) of the hotel provided the perfect setting for the 400-plus participants and invited guests. In his speech, Hans-Peter Porsche had some very personal words to offer the outgoing President. “You have given outstanding service to the company and the Porsche brand in your capacity as President of Porsche Club Deutschland and as a colleague of the former Porsche PR Director, race manager and racing driver Huschke von Hanstein, who came up with the idea for the first Porsche Club, Porsche Club Westfalen, in 1952. I would like to offer you my sincere thanks for this, dear Ilse, personally and on behalf of the Piëch and Porsche families, as well as the members of the Managing Board and Supervisory Board!” Klaus Berning, Sales and Marketing Director at Porsche AG, extended the best wishes of his fellow board members and praised above all the Club members' dedication and the impressive attendance at the Porsche Sports Cup and the Club motorsport events.



After an exquisite gala dinner, the guests once again took to the dance floor. Hans-Peter Porsche and Ilse Nädele “kicked off” the dancing. The Las Vegas Live Band entertained the young and the young-at-heart until the early hours. The evening was especially significant for the guests from abroad who saw it as the official farewell to

“their Ilse”. Johnny Lachmann from Sweden gave Ilse a commemorative gift. Others simply seized the hour to thank her for her work.

There was a surprise on Sunday. The participants had Sunday brunch accompanied by Dixie music in the Weissach Casino, a stylish restaurant beyond

compare, located in the heart of Weis-sach's development centre. The Casino spoilt the guests with a stunning buffet and they really could not have wished for more. It is surely unique in the history of the club that every participant took home either a winner's trophy or a souvenir award.

It was a worthy end to a wonderful and unforgettable event. We would like to thank the sponsors Porsche, Porsche Deutschland, Michelin, Geldermann Sektkellerei, Maritim Hotels, Confiserie Heilemann and ADAC for their generous support, and the Managing Board of Porsche Club Deutschland for the months of preparation. But we must also thank the participants, who made this event so memorable.

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Porsche Club of America, Wild Rose Region

Rocky Mountain High: 25th Anniversary of the Wild Rose Region

The Wild Rose Region of Porsche Club of America celebrated its 25th anniversary with a trip to one of the most spectacular castles of the Rocky Mountains – the magnificent Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel in Canada's Banff National Park.

The number of Club members who took part in the event was overwhelming. Porsche vehicles filled the parking lot at the meeting place, then formed a continuous convoy many kilometres long along the TransCanada Highway towards Banff National Park. From there, they completely filled the courtyard at the famous Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel to overflowing – much to the delight of the international hotel guests who naturally enjoyed seeing so many exclusive cars in one place.

Considering that almost 50 cars parked in the hotel courtyard and the 100 participants, we can surely be proud of what the Wild Rose Region Club has accomplished this year. For the anniversary run the Club brought out many members who had not been to any Club event recently, or in some cases ever. The friendly relaxed and open approach of the Wild Rose Region made everyone welcome.

We enjoyed a brief presentation of the Club's history and its charter (the original charter was on display). It goes without saying that the focus of a 25-year anniversary of the formation of a chapter of the Porsche Club of America is a look back over its own history.

We gave honour to the achievements of past Presidents, such as Harlow Rankin, Allan Botting, John Ferrara, Jeff Smith, Marvin Guenter, George Springer, Ron Davies, Ken Johnson, Mark Polson, Dana Lee-Trottier, Perci Hala and Ken McDon-

ald, each of whom left their mark on the Club, and upon whose hard work the Club has been built. The current President, Martin Kratz, read greetings from the Porsche Club of America and its President.

But what is a birthday party without presents? As an anniversary present, every participant received a special collector's edition silver jubilee Wild Rose Region car badge and a 10-dollar petrol voucher to use at Husky Oil stations.



Then the participants were invited to savour the culinary delights of the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel and the famous Sunday brunch, featuring hundreds of choices of exotic and exquisite dishes, desserts, wines and much more.

Afterwards, we met in the courtyard for a group photo. Kerry Smith, always the adventurer, took a spectacular shot from the top roof terrace on the seventh floor.

This anniversary event held on September 30th, set a number of Wild Rose Region records: It was the most successful Club event to date. Never before so many cars had taken part in a Wild Rose Region event and they created the longest continuous line of Porsche vehicles (we covered almost 3 kilometers of highway). Gracefully led by some immaculate Porsche 356 models, we brought 50 years of Porsche history together in one place – from a well-maintained 1957 356 Cabriolet right up to today's modern technology. We managed to bring more cars into the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel courtyard than the hotel had ever experienced in its entire history.

Lastly and most importantly we had the best and strongest Club spirit among our Club members!

Things look very positive for our Club for 2008!

Martin Kratz

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Porsche Club Roland zu Bremen

Serious Driving Calls for a Serious Celebration: Summer Celebration of Porsche Club Roland zu Bremen

The headline can be taken literally, as President Michael Pledl and Vice President Günter Mönning had something special in mind: With a speed yellow scooter, acquired especially for the Club event, Club members and guests set off in teams of two on a challenging course. Although racing drivers wear overalls, the dress code here was a warm winter jacket, gloves and scarf, cap and flying goggles. A real torture in the summer heat.

Several of the chicanes built in by the sports management team demanded maximum concentration and exceptional physical control. Apart from the father-and-son and junior groups, the teams were mainly mixed, and the female contingent was very strong indeed. Despite many great performances, there ultimately were winners from each group!

You could see the happiness on the participants' faces as they enjoyed the first real day of sunshine at the summer celebration after a long, rainy summer. The romantic setting at Varrel was awe-inspiring and brought the guests out onto the picturesque forecourt of the manor house, where they savoured sparkling wine and fresh raspberries. A barbecue was laid on for the Club members in the rustic garden. A summer salad buffet offered a real feast and an excellent selection of desserts and wines rounded off the meal.



The guests waited excitedly for the awards ceremony, as the Managing Board had gone to a lot of trouble, especially for the youngsters, with a few special presents from Porsche Selection. The organisers were rewarded for their efforts with bright, happy faces.

The speed yellow scooter found a new home that very evening with the two racing-mad boys, Alex and Maxi ...

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