

der Auspuff

Monthly Newsletter • August, 2016



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Prez Says

from President Ross Rampy



In a year full of big events in our region, this is probably the biggest.

Time is running out to sign up for the Driver Skills Clinic on Sunday, August 28th. This is a non-aggressive, fun event that is designed to teach car control and how to safely drive your Porsche. PCA

members will be given priority on the track and are limiting the number of participants to 40 drivers.

The event will consist of 4 exercises, Braking and accident avoidance, Handling oval, Skid Pad and Slalom. Each exercise will emphasize two or three skills specific to that event, all with the purpose that will improve your driving ability, safety and enjoyment of your Porsche. This event is not limited to Porsche so if you know someone who might benefit from this class, let them know and encourage them to come.

Pre-Registration is required and the entry fee is charged to No Shows unless you cancel by 12:00 pm on Thursday August 25th. Register to teeitup@mind.net or call Ross at 541 840 8690.

See you at the Jackson County Fairgrounds on the 28th and...

See you in my mirrors.

Ross

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Crackin' Curves

By Glenn Gumaer, DC
Membership Chair

What qualifies a car as a supercar? And if we are talking about categorizing the cars we aspire to own, love and drive, what are the characteristics of a car that satisfies our supercar dreams? Of course, there are pedestrian utility vehicles that comfortably carry us from point A to point B in an efficient manner, but as motorsports enthusiasts, we yearn for more. After all, life is too short to drive a boring car!

When picturing a supercar in your mind's eye, its styling and performance are the two most obvious characteristics that set it apart from the rest. Its shape is defined by an extraordinary, unmatched style that makes it appear other worldly, but with gorgeous contours that also make it extremely beautiful. Its execution places it at the pinnacle of automotive art. And even though such attributes may be somewhat subjective, you have no doubts, because just like pornography, you know it when you see it. Its performance figures shatter the boundaries of prior technological advancements to produce superior handling, the quickest acceleration, and fastest top-speed. So, if some of you may be thinking, "gee that sounds a lot like my Porsche," that is because I have yet to address the dark side of supercars.

By definition, besides extraordinary style and performance, supercars also must carry a huge price tag and be one of a limited production. And while they may cost anywhere in the six-figure stratosphere to the seven-figure mesosphere, their upkeep is equally unaffordable. Then, there is the cost of operation... did you know that a Mercedes McLaren SLR can gobble up a whole gallon of gas in less than four miles at full throttle? And if you think that is bad, at 250 miles per hour, the Bugatti Veyron's gas tank will go dry in just twelve minutes, but that will save you from a blowout, because the tires will last only fifteen! And if you were to go flat on one of those special Michelin PAX tires, you have to ship the car to France for replacements, at a cost of \$70,000!

Also, consider the impractical nature of a two seater with little to no room for luggage. Then, there is the exorbitant cost of insurance. A few years ago, on one of my Porsche pilgrimages south, I visited Rusnak Porsche, in Westlake Village, CA, where they had a

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beautiful, black Carrera GT on the show room floor. I learned that it had been parked there for an extended period, because before its new owner could take delivery, he was required to come up with an insurance binder that would cost him an additional \$22,000, so he backed out of the purchase.

So to revisit our automotive classification scheme, aspiring to own a supercar is tantamount to a fool's errand, so what our sights should be set on is an alternative that carries many of the positive aspects of a supercar, without the negatives: i.e. (drumroll please...) The Exciting Exotic Super Sports Car. Defining these categories may seem somewhat subjective and placements may vary from person to person, but here is how my dream car list plays out. There are:

"Megacars" like the Koenigsegg One:1 (So named, because it achieved that magical horsepower-to-weight ratio of 1:1), and the Bugatti Veyron Super Sport.

"Hypercars" like the Porsche 918, McLaren P1, Ferrari LaFerrari, Lamborghini Reventón, Bugatti Veyron, Koenigsegg Agera, and Pagani Huayra.

"Supercars" like the Porsche 911 Turbo, GT-3, GTS-4, 911-R, Carrera GT, Audi R8 V10, Aston Martin V12 Vantage, and Ford GT.

"Exciting Exotics" like the all the remaining Porsche models, Lamborghini Huracán, Ferrari California, Ferrari 458, McLaren MP4-12C, Mercedes SLS, BMW i8, Chevrolet Corvette Z06, Jaguar F-Type, and Nissan GT-R.

Megacar and hypercar categories may seem superfluous, as they could all be included under the heading of supercars, but there appears to be degrees of distinctiveness even at those lofty levels to justify their grouping.

When one considers the performance figures for early supercars of the past, starting with cars like the Lamborghini Miura, and the BMW M1 and compare them with current standard Porsche models that can run circles around them, we have to also keep them placed in their lofty poster pin-up positions, because of the technological achievements they displayed for their time. (The Porsche 959 and Ferrari F40 were exceptional supercars and would fit in the Hypercar category.) For me, I am content knowing that my souped-up Cayman S is an exciting, exotic super sports car and not a supercar!

Glenn

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Oregon Wine Country Drive

From Arne Burglund

The Central Chapter of the Cascade Region, under mild but cloudy skies, embarked upon a very scenic drive through the Umpqua Valley Wine Region of Western Oregon on Saturday, July 16, 2016. Nine cars and 16 people departed from the Fred Meyer's parking lot in West Eugene at 10:00 am and headed for the small hamlet of Elkton, Oregon and the Brandborg Winery and Tasting Room.

Upon our arrival at Brandborg we were greeted by Joan with wine lists and wine glasses at the ready for our perusal and sampling.

After enjoying the wine samples at Brandborg and making some select purchases of their wines the group headed south on a stunning drive along the scenic Umpqua River on our way to the Cooper Ridge Winery. The drive provided us with magnificent views of the Umpqua River, Coast Range Mountains and heavily forested hillsides. By the



time we arrived at Cooper Ridge the sun was shining brightly.

At Cooper Ridge Robin, Lindsay and Lisa rolled out the red carpet at their one-year old winery by reserving patio tables for us to enjoy our picnic lunches while getting an interesting lecture on the story of how Cooper Ridge Vineyards and Winery came to be. All while sampling their

fine wines. Another couple, also Cascade Region members and their Porsche joined us there for lunch, bringing our count to 10 cars and 18 people. Before we left Cooper Ridge for our final destination we rounded up the Porsches for a photo shoot in front of the tasting room.

Next we were off to our last stop of the day at the Abacela Winery and Tasting Room just outside the town of Winston. Abacela's vineyards were first planted in the early 1990's and the wine tasting room was completed just four years ago. It is nestled on a

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hilltop with beautiful views of the 76 acres of vineyards from which they produce all of their many wines varieties. One story above the tasting room was an observatory offering even more spectacular views of the surrounding vineyards and hillsides.

About 125 miles from the start of our journey the day's drive was concluded with most folks returning to Eugene via Interstate 5 for a 200 mile round trip that memorable Saturday. There was an unspoken consensus that old friends were reunited for another enjoyable drive and new friends were made by the presence of new members, some of whom this was their first time on a PCA driving event. That's what PCA is all about, it's not just about the cars; it's the people.

Time to find another route to drive!



Arne

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Rush Hour (Laguna Seca)

Upcoming Events

(see the website for details)

August Short Drive/Social Time – Central Chapter

August 27th (contact Cory Unfried 541-206-1329)

Porsche Driver Skill School

August 28th Jackson County Fairgrounds
(contact Ross Rampy 541-840-8690)

Day Trip to Tule Lake

October 8th

RSVP: By email to Ann McGloon at mcgloonam@yahoo.com or by phone to David McGloon at 541-862-2925

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