From the Prez . . .

December was a sad month. We lost David Mattox, an ace Porsche mechanic who worked with Harry Williams for over 17 years. Dave will be missed by everyone who knew or met him.

A bit of time has gone by and we had a nice get together at the Christmas party, even though only fifteen people turned out. It had been suggested that we have a holiday party after Christmas. Let’s have some feedback on that suggestion for use in the future.

The club has two things going on in February, both on Feb. 18th. In the morning is the British Car Club Rally to Atmore, which can be a lot of fun, followed by lunch at David’s Catfish House. The second is the Mardi Gras Parade in Orange Beach, AL. We are going to drive the Mardi Gras Queen and her Court in the Parade that evening. We need a few Open Top cars to carry the Queen and her Court.

I also received an email from Tom Notaro who has his 1985 928S for sale. Tom has spent a lot time and money to bring this car back up to like-new conditions. If anyone is interested please let me know and I will give you Tom’s number.
From the Prez, Cont’d.

I have been working to rebuild my 944 Turbo’s engine. I took it to Barber for the DE in December and it blew a head gasket, which was a handful coming out of turn 11 at better that 100 MPH. We had found the block had cracked. I am now trying to find a good block to change everything over to.

I would like to schedule our next breakfast get together over towards the west side of Mobile. This should allow the members from Mississippi as well as those from Mobile to come out. If anyone has a location that might work please let me know.

I finally heard back from Baldwin County about our autocross dates in Robertsdale, AL. Our first one will be on **March 10th**. Please either see our website at [www.son.pca.org/calendar/calendar.html](http://www.son.pca.org/calendar/calendar.html) or email me, your club president, at wflindenmuth@aol.com more upcoming dates.

Wally Lindenmuth
wflindenmuth@aol.com
Talk about a fun blast! Though not many of us gathered this year, for one reason or another, those of us that did had a mighty good time. The “Dirty Santa” was more fun than ever, with Diane, seen below, grabbing onto a gigantic box of wine at one point. Hey, the doctor says, a glass (not saying how large the glass is) a day keeps the . . . well . . . something away. 😊 Below is a great picture, taken by Patsy Mellin, of Wally Lindenmuth presenting Diane Watson with a past President’s award for Diane’s loyal service to the Sonnenschein region PCA. Thanks Diane!
**From the DE Instructor**  
*High Performance Driving in the Rain*

by David O’Neal

After many track days, I began to wonder if it was my “skills” or Dr. Porsche’s wonderful computers driving the car. Porsche’s Sport Driving School preaches a mantra of “accelerate and brake in straight lines” during high performance driving situations. PSDS also keeps “the nannies” permanently engaged on its cars and assures drivers that the computers do not intervene unless the driver is doing something wrong. However; without a limited slip differential PSM intervenes quite frequently during right-hand turns.

DE Hall of Fame Instructor Keep Morse from Suncoast Florida Region advised me to wait for a rainy track day to turn off PSM and answer my question. His rationale: one drives slower in the rain and the wet surface magnifies any errors in technique. So I took up the challenge some months later when the opportunity arose at PBIR; the rains came and a few of us ventured onto the glistening track surface.

By following PSDS’ strict mantra of “brake in straight lines, accelerate in straight lines”, I found the performance and grip to be only slightly less than on a dry track. I started slowly and adjusted the line and braking points as my confidence built and track conditions changed. I did spin near the end of a 30 minute session when trying to square-off a corner; the Cayman S was half on a “dry line” that had developed and half on the wet – PSM would not have saved the car from that mental lapse. Nonetheless I learned, as have several of my HPDE students, that with care and concentration on “the mantra”, performance driving in the wet is not only possible, but quite rewarding.

<page four>
Upcoming Events . . .

- **04 Feb. 2012** ~ See the new Porsche 991 at Dean McCrary Porsche of Mobile, Alabama. We will meet at at 9:15AM at the Publix at Nine Mile Road and Pine Forest. SON PCA members from Mississippi, Mobile, and Baldwin County areas can meet at the dealership: 1525 Beltline Highway; Mobile, AL, 36606. Phone: (251) 471-3326. Event will be from **10:00AM-2:00PM**.

- **04 Feb. 2012** ~ Zone 12 Autocross Challenge ~ registration through [https://www.clubregistration.net](https://www.clubregistration.net) Entries are $45 now that it is after January 15th. This event takes place in Sebring. The event is rain or shine unless we have a severe weather situation. For details, please contact SONPCA president Wally at [wflindenmuth@aol.com](mailto:wflindenmuth@aol.com)

- **18 Feb. 2012** ~ Pensacola to Atmore Road Rally ~ A planned cruise from Pensacola, Florida, to Atmore, Alabama. This rally is sponsored by the Panhandle Cruisers and the Pensacola Austin-Healey Club. Please either see our website’s calendar at [www.son.pca.org/calendar/calendar.html](http://www.son.pca.org/calendar/calendar.html) (click on the month of February) for more details.

- **18 Feb. 2012** ~ Orange Beach Mardi Gras Parade ~ We need volunteers with Cabriolets (convertibles), preferred, to escort the queens through the parade route. For further details, please contact the president of our club at [wflindenmuth@aol.com](mailto:wflindenmuth@aol.com) for full details.

- **10 March, 2012** ~ First autocross of the year! This will take place in Robertsdale, Alabama. PLEASE contact Wally at [wflindenmuth@aol.com](mailto:wflindenmuth@aol.com) or Bonni at [pca@weatherwax.net](mailto:pca@weatherwax.net) for details.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All of our events, those listed above and further, are usually listed on our website: [www.son.pca.org](http://www.son.pca.org) Have a look! Our webmaster, Keith Boring, works very hard to keep it constantly updated.

<page five>
WELCOME to our newest members!!!

Richard Brent from Pensacola, FL joins us with his 2000 blue Boxster

Rett Ellis from Gulf Breeze, FL will be sporting his 2012 black 911 Carrera

Julie Pecchia of Pensacola Beach, FL brings to the club her 2002 gray Boxster S

Mark Sprayberry of Pensacola, FL adds to our mix his 2010 black 911 Carrera

We are all looking forward to seeing you very soon!!! 😊

If you ever need anything – anything at all Porsche – please consider our very busy tech director, below; you will not be sorry. 😊

***Editor's note: I really hope you like your newsletter! Submit your photos, ideas, and newsworthy articles to pca@weatherwax.net. Cut-off will be on the 25th of each month, and I will endeavor to get to you this newsletter by the first day of each month. “Cogito, ergo ZOOM!” (“I think, therefore, I go FAST!”).