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SONNENSCHN REGION PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

September/October 2006

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# Zeitschrift



The North Florida Region of the Porsche Club of America recently presented Sacred Heart Foundation with a check for over \$41,000 as a result of the club's first annual charity car show at the Destin Commons. The North Florida Region invited members from Sonnenschein to participate in what turned out to be the start of an annual event to raise money for the foundation. Ninety Four cars attended the event from across the Gulf Coast. The Carrera GT (above) was at the center of the car show in the main square of the Commons where it was accompanied by other exotic cars like Ferrari's, Lotus' and Lamborghini's. The 2nd Annual Charity Car show is planned for next August. The invitation stands for Sonnenschein member's to attend and participate. So mark your calendars to help raise money for this worth while cause.



# Dean McCrary

I M P O R T S

# P O R S C H E

1445 S. Beltline Hwy. Mobile, AL 36606





After a quiet summer we reconvened with a busy September 23<sup>rd</sup>. In the morning Valhalla Racing sponsored an autocross at the Fairgrounds (non-PCA event), which is covered elsewhere in our newsletter, and later in the day a few of us got together at Lulu's for lunch. It was a small Lulu's group, but some new friendships were made and some older ones renewed. When done over the excellent fare at Lulu's, with a back roads ride in Porsches thrown in, it was a very good way to welcome autumn. Although with temperatures in the 90's, I was a little disappointed with the weather-makers. But then again, it wasn't a hurricane, so I am not complaining!

Our October event will be a country-roads drive in northern Escambia County, on the 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>. I'm still double-checking with the locals to ensure none are dirt (roads, not locals).

As with Democrats and Republicans, it is that time of year to consider running for office. I don't

know which board members are planning to return for 2007, but I can assure you that if you throw your hat in the ring, we will find a spot for you (and return your hat).

As I mentioned in the September social events email, our current board have been serving the club for quite some time (and doing a darn good job of it), but I'm sure they would not mind passing the baton to others. As I've said before, being on the board is a rewarding experience, you get to meet some really good people, and you'll gain a greater understanding of all the supporting volunteer work that goes on at the zone and national levels.

Concerning track events, I haven't heard of

any more progress being made towards obtaining permission to drive at Bronson, but I have heard that efforts are being made to get us onto Saufley. As with Bronson, no one is publishing any track schedules yet, but I'll pass on information as it becomes available.

*Pete*



Vicky and Gerald Adcox, Patsy, Joan and Herb Hackman, and Jim Cooper (left to right) enjoying the atmosphere at LULU's.

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Hurricane IVAN was the downfall of our local driving events here in Pensacola. Our members have had to participate with other regions in order to get a little track time with our cars.

Back in February, Sonnenschein held a very successful club Drivers Education event in Northern Alabama at the Talladega Grand Prix track. We had plenty of members and guest join us for the event. If you didn't attend, then you were missing not only a good driving event but also a good social event as well. We all had a nice dinner the night before at the Outback Steak House and a Bar-B-Q lunch the day after. If you see this on the calendar again...Please join us.

So to our surprise when "us" track hogs heard that a local performance shop was going to sponsor an Autocross here in town we jumped on the chance to get in on the action.

Frank Knight, owner of a new performance shop called Valhalla Racing, sponsored the Autocross for different reasons that could benefit us all. He naturally wanted exposure to his shop but also he did it to help prevent young drivers from street racing. Frank had never put on an Autocross event before, so when contacted by myself and other members of the Porsche club, we instinctively offered to help him run the event. The course was laid out on half of the Pensacola Fairgrounds parking lot. The total time for the average driver to complete the course was just under a minute and a

half. Cones were donated also by the Corvette and BMW clubs of Pensacola.

About 200 people showed up at the event to watch the drivers navigate thru the sea of cones. About 40 cars with 50 drivers ran the technical course testing their cars and their driving skills. One could only know how much fun these people had on the course by seeing the look on their faces when they stepped out of their cars.

One girl had bought a new Scion from Toyota and was running the course with her mother in the car, both having a really fun time. This was typical from all the young drivers.

Thirteen Porsches showed up for the event, with a couple of them being new potential members of the PCA. I was very pleased with the support our club showed. A couple of key people who really made the event work were Harry Williams and Mark Silver (pictured above right). They set up the track and ran the timer. With out them, I dare say the event would have been a disaster. A heartfelt thank you goes out to both of them.

Frank gave out trophies to 6 classes of vehicles. Which was a nice touch to end the day at the track. It was hot especially with not much wind blowing. I had an umbrella and I still got too much sun, I guess next time I will take more to drink and sunblock.

The event was a complete success and we made a good showing with Valhalla Racing. When the shop opens, he will give the Sonnenschein members discounts in the store and on his new Dyno Machine.

Personally, I had a blast! Like so many others. I put my car through its paces and didn't touch a cone or spin out.... And I had the fastest time of any Porsche on the track! So I dare close this article with these words, for I know I will never live this down....

"Catch me if you can!"

*Chris*



Harry Williams and Mark Silver working the timer desk (above). Mark Silver (below) preparing to run the track at the fairgrounds.

## Board of Directors

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Pete Mellin  
850-499-2467  
peter.mellin@worldnet.att.net

### V-President

John Browning  
mindless@frontiernet.net

### Treasurer

Mark Silver  
cicmark@aol.com

### Membership

Harry Williams  
850-435-8409  
hwimports@cox.net

### Driving and Safety

Al Mitchell  
mit2211@bellsouth.net

### Secretary /Newsletter

Chris Doherty  
850-968-2287  
engineer@centerseat.net





## PBCA 5th Annual POKER RALLY

**Sunday, November 12, 2006**



**Purpose** To enjoy driving a little over 65 miles on scenic roads followed by a sit-down meal and awards. (33 continuous, unobstructed miles over three beautiful roads that many haven't seen.) **NOTE:** This is a planned tour - **No competition involved.** Collect your poker cards at start, finish, and along course to add fun and interest.

**Sponsor** - Panhandle British Car Association [www.PBCA1.com](http://www.PBCA1.com)

**NO COST** - PBCA does not charge an entry fee.

**Who is invited?** **All Clubs** featuring **All Makes** (9 clubs in 2005)

**Where?** Sign in, start, and finish at **Sonny's Barbecue** banquet room, 630 N. Navy Blvd., Pensacola, FL. Located at intersection where Highway 98 (east-west) "T's" into Navy Blvd. (north-south) (About 1/3 mile east of NATTC Corry Station, 1/2 mile south of Pete Moore Chevrolet, 1 1/2 miles north of NAS Pensacola)

**When?** Sign in between **12:30** and **1:30** - First car off at **1:30**

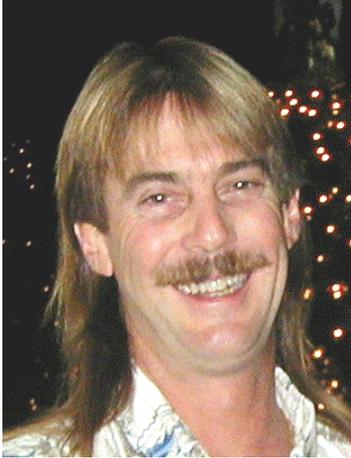
**Awards**

1. Best poker hands (cards passed out at S/F and along course)
2. Most accurate questionnaires (not required - a navigator helps)

**Rules** Safe driving is required. Only street-legal cars. No speeding.

**Rallymaster** Bill Moseley - Email - [Moseley1@cox.net](mailto:Moseley1@cox.net) (850) 456-9040, cell (850) 748-5564 Light rain will be ok - In case of a severe thunderstorm another date will be selected. Call or email if you have questions.

**TO ALL OF THE SONNENSCHNEID MEMBERS:** This Rally will be our official event for the month of November. Our club will help sponsor the event in the way of door prizes donated by Dean McCrary Porsche of Mobile. I encourage all of our members to attend this event. Last year some of our members attended the event as evident in the picture above and we had a really good time with the British Car Club. This year Bill Moseley has promised a bigger event with a very nice drive through the country and a good meal at the end....not to mention the vast amount of door prizes that will be given away. I will be there and I would hope to see you all there as well..... *CHRIS*



It can't be the battery...the lights still work!

This is the standard response I get when a car wont start and I ask about the battery condition.

Looks can be deceiving! The battery may have enough power to shine the headlights, which draw only a few amps, and still be way short of having enough power to run the starter motor, which may draw 100 amps or more.

Should I "jump" start it? Not if you have other options. A small battery charger is a fine addition to any home. Battery chargers come in small sizes so as not to take up that valuable space in the garage, are inexpensive, and fairly easy to use. I recommend something like a 10 amp, automatic shut-off unit available at any local parts or home improvement store. Be sure and take the time to read the manual for proper use and safety precautions as batteries have the potential to be really nasty.

Why not just jump start it? If the battery is so low that it wont start the engine then it is too low for the alternator to recharge it in a timely fashion. What this boils down to is that the alternator is designed only to keep a battery fully charged, not recharge a heavily discharged

one. The alternator will do it, but at a price. Each time you use the alternator to recharge a dead battery you get a lot closer to replacing the alternator. Battery chargers are a lot less expensive, but if you must...then...well...my kid needs new shoes so feel free.



A discharged battery is potentially a sign of additional problems. If your battery is discharged we need to find out why. Batteries can be checked for problems at most of the chain type parts stores, free of charge. If the battery is found to be good it is time to take a look at the car. If the car has sat unused for a few weeks and the battery is low I would consider this normal. If it has been only a few days, or only overnight I would suspect an abnormally high parasitic draw. The normal parasitic draw, (the drain normally present on a battery to keep the clock, radio station presets, ect.) is around 30ma. With-

out getting too technical, for reference, leaving the interior light on which pulls about 500ma, will drain a battery in a bout 24 hours, or less. Alternator problems can leave you in the same fix, but usually show up when driving. The alternator should be checked with a good, fully charged battery.

Older cars have the potential for a few other problems like corrosion at various wiring connections, most likely near the battery, and the good ole faulty ground connection.

Any questions? Feel free to e-mail me at: [hwimports@cox.net](mailto:hwimports@cox.net)



**Treasurer's Report—Mark Silver**

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Main street at the Destin Commons (above). Porsches lined the streets from early 356's to the newest Carrera GT, each with a donation can in front of the car collecting for the Sacred Heart Foundation. George King (right) gets ready to take to the track at Pensacola Fair Grounds along with Roger Swain (lower right) and Chris Doherty (below). Dean McCrary is getting a new building built (bottom). Craig Valenti says that it will meet all of Porsche's specifications and will be large enough to display four cars on the showroom floor. I would keep my eye out on a possible Grand Opening celebration soon. I am sure Dean will want all of the Sonnenschein members to attend the celebration.



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CALENDER OF SCHEDULED EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
OCTOBER 12-15	PCA OCKTOBERFEST	Daytona Motor Speedway, Daytona Beach FL
OCTOBER 28	Fall Drive to Atmore	Atmore and back roads of Northern Escambia County
NOVEMBER 12	PBCA POKER RALLY	Pensacola, Start at Sonny BBQ on Navy Blvd at 1230.
DECEMBER (?)	Christmas Party	To be determined at a later date.



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Friday October 13<sup>th</sup>

Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup>

Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup>

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SONNENSCHHEIN's NEXT EVENT

**What:** Fall drive through the northern Escambia countryside with lunch in Atmore  
**When:** 11:00 AM Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>  
**Where:** Pensacola to Atmore and back  
**Details:** This will be a caravan to Atmore via back roads to attend the Williams Station Art Festival, then returning home individually. Williams Station was the original name of Atmore, and this is an arts, crafts, blues music, model trains, etc., celebration of Atmore's history. If David's Catfish House is open we can either eat there or try one of the various food vendors who are part of the festival. I would guess this event is more than the Elberta Sausage Festival and less than the Fairhope Arts Festival.  
**Directions:** Meet at the Albertson's at the corner of Nine Mile Road and Pine Forest Road by 11:00 AM. We'll depart Albertson's about 11:15. From there we will take Hwy 297A to 97 and then some other back roads north to Atmore. Barring any wrong turns (how likely is that?), we should arrive a little after 12:00. If you want to return to Pensacola via back roads, take Hwy 31 east out of Atmore towards Flomaton and then work your way south. (I'm a little short on details for these roads.) You folks in Mobile can probably find another set of back roads to get you to Atmore!



SONNENSCHHEIN  
REGION PORSCHE  
CLUB OF AMERICA

Chris Doherty,  
Newsletter Publisher  
11521 Dueling Oaks Drive  
Pensacola, FL 32514

Phone: 850-968-2287

Email: [engineer@centerseat.net](mailto:engineer@centerseat.net)

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