

From Within the 13th Zone – May 2008

Driving Season Nears

Mother Nature is attempting to show us that winter is over here in the Upper Midwest. It seems that the typical temperatures here in Chicago have been 10 – 12 degrees lower than normal. In looking at the regional calendars, the driving season is nearly upon us with Autocross schools and driver education events quickly approaching. Starting off with an autocross school or an autocross is a great way to learn car handling in a controlled environment prior to thinking about taking a next step to Driver Education schools on a road course. As a reminder, a new harness standard was implemented as of January 1st. For a clarification contact your regional safety or DE chair or look on the National website within the Library and Admin section. A few regions will also be hosting rallies. The roads are typically great “Porsche” roads and its fun to make up time and get back on course.

As a reminder, the Chicago Region is again hosting a PCA National DE Instructor program on June 25th along with a driver education event at Blackhawk Farms in Rockton, IL. As a reminder, when an instructor attends a Nationally run Instructor school and passes, they are considered a “**Trained Instructor**” not a Certified Instructor. All instructors that have successfully passed the course are listed on www.pca.org for an easy reference for regions requiring a National Instructor number.

Charlotte Parade

Those that registered on line for the upcoming Parade may have encountered a server snafu. The first day registration period was extended for a few days while the software problem was corrected. Last I checked some 915 members have registered for this year’s Parade, 47 of which are from Zone 13. Speaking about Parade, only seven Zone 13 members have registered for participation within the Zone Challenge to be held on Thursday of Parade week. We will need more volunteers to staff the Challenge. If you are interested, please contact me as soon as possible.

For those that haven’t yet heard, the 2010 Parade will be held here within our Zone 13 in St. Charles, Illinois, west of Chicago. It will be the first “Nationally” run Parade and should ease some of the stress typically related to hosting a Parade. As more information becomes available, we will share. Those interested in some volunteer capacity, please let me know.

Escape to the Land of Enchantment

For those that didn’t sign up for Parade but want to experience a new type of event, consider participating with an “Escape” event. What is an Escape? It is a new PCA tradition that was conceived by the zone reps in 2005 to be the alternative for those not making the trip across the country to Parade. This year’s event will be in Albuquerque, NM. Registration will open up on May 1st. These events are a long weekend and have more tours rather than any competitive events typically held at Parade. Looks like fun in a beautiful part of the country.

Membership

As always, it’s important to keep the lifeline of the club going by nurturing new and potential Porsche Club Members. Some regions have beautiful business cards that members can distribute as they see a Porsche while out and about. When at events, have new members introduce themselves and have a member mentor help with introductions and or assistance at the event;

coaching at an autocross or meeting other members. Newer members tend to quit if they never feel welcome or as an outsider at an event.

It's not the cars, it's the people. Go out and start enjoying the Porsche Passion! Until next time...

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