

May 18, 2009

News from Zone 13 Representative for May 2009

Hello Zone 13 Presidents,

I'm sure now that the weather has turned spring-like you are all very busy with outdoor Porsche events. Well other than lots of rain lately, Kentucky is beautiful with roads that are clear and clean. I thought I'd interrupt your outdoor fun and take a few minutes to pass on some general information about what's going on with me, Zone 13 and National

**Starting with an update on me.**

I'm in the process of drying out after spending Friday and Saturday enjoying the Tennessee Tubs 8<sup>th</sup> Annual BBQ. This was a super event at Cal Turner's farm in Kingston Springs, TN. Our drive to the event from Lexington began with duck drowning rain and intermittent hail. I was very pleased with the traction and performance of the Michelin Diamaris tires on my Cayenne Turbo S. I had lots of grip despite wind and sheeting water. We spent the evening in Bowling Green, KY at a cookout hosted by Richard Collins, a member of the Kentucky Region. It was obvious that Richard was a serious gear head as we entered his home through the garage. He was busy working on the exhaust of a beautiful 930, being careful not to drop wrenched on the Jaguar XKE or Austin Healey parked on either side of the lift. Oh yeah, the burgers and brats were great too!

Saturday morning in Bowling Green began with a very early gathering of PCA members from the Kentucky, Bluegrass, and Southern Indiana Regions. We convoyed on down to Kingston Springs. The Tub's presented 25 excellent examples of 356 Porsches for judging. In addition to the judged cars, Cal displayed part of his eclectic car collection. He showed several rare Porsches, a BMW M1, a Ferrari BB512, an Austin Martin DBS and several other exciting cars. Oh yeah, the BBQ was great too!

More rain on the way back. We only had to trailer back one car. A great little 1973 914 had transmission failure. Even the rain and tranny failure did not dampen the spirits of Mr. Donaldson. He had purchased the 914 new in '73. The drive was a birthday present from his son. Mr. Donaldson turned 86 last Tuesday.

As Finance Director for the Keeneland Concours d' Elegance I've been very busy closing the books and submitting 2008 Tax Returns. As the paperwork finishes, our activity level for the 2009 event (held July 18, 2009) is ramping up. The good news is that the event continues to grow and we are seeing more sponsor interest and support from community folks for this great annual event started by the Bluegrass Region in 2004. The concours is on-track for charitable donations totaling over \$475,000 by 2010. For more concours information see: <http://www.keenelandconcours.com/>

**Moving on to Zone 13:**

Several regions were disappointed by the delay in opening the newest Kentucky Road Course in Sparta, KY. The Zone 4 Central Indiana Region had over 200 vehicles from Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky enrolled in a DE for April 18. Failure to obtain required permitting resulted in the opening delay. There is still no known estimate for opening.

The Bluegrass Region has a new Newsletter Editor. Paul Elwyn put out his first Rumble issue in May. His experience with publishing newsletter for other clubs shows in the quality of this first issue. Of note also is that the Rumble is no longer being done in print. Members are sent links via e-mail to the on-line version.

The Bluegrass Region started having a monthly Social Breakfast in May. The first breakfast attracted approximately 20 members. Because of the morning hours, it was possible to draw members who had not been able to attend the typical socials that are held in the evening.

The Kentucky Region is making plans for celebrating its 50 year in September. Congratulations to Steve McCombs and the rest of the KY Region folks. Let me know what I can do to help with the celebration.

I've only received one subsidy request from regions so far this year. Fox Valley was awarded a \$350 Charity/Public Service Subsidy for participating in the Fox Valley Road and Track Classic benefiting the Multiple Sclerosis Chapter of Wisconsin. Laura Prellwitz presented a check to the Chapter for \$850. Great work!

The Chicago Region is doing a good job of getting in Observer's Reports. In our litigious society it is important that we demonstrate by the Observer's Report that we are in fact following our prescribed practices and procedures. Mikel Matthews of Lincoln Trail noticed that while we require insurance for some Technical Sessions, we do not require an Observer's Report. This is inconsistent with other events requiring insurance. I'm working with Arlene Novack to develop a report to address this need. Mike has also suggested we be able to do the forms on-line. Arlene is looking into the possibility.

I'm looking for some help with having a Zone get together at Parade. If you have any thoughts regarding what to have and when to have it, I'd appreciate your input (and assistance!)

**Info from National:**

Manny Alban (Vice-President) and Jill Beck (National Staff) have taken on leadership of resolving the current website problems. Their approach includes hiring a company of experienced programmers to integrate available existing software solutions rather than attempt to create new designs. Our previous mode of creating everything was overwhelming for existing staff and resulted in unexpected service interruptions and long completion times. The current projection is that the website will be totally up and running by Parade.

Attendee responses from the two GrandAm Series events have been very positive. The biggest challenge with GrandAm events is that PCA has little experience base with the Track Management. For Platz, ALMS dealt with the tracks now PCA is dealing with Track Management directly. So far relations with the tracks have been good. Ticket prices for the GrandAm Corrals have been in the \$55 to \$70 range.

Great news regarding Track Insurance. National has had very positive discussions with insurance providers. Expect to see a roll-out within the next two weeks with details.

We are still getting registrations for 2009 Parade. Registration has slowed due to website problems but still getting lots of interest from members to attend. We could possibly see an 800 person Parade. Hans-Peter Porsche will be attending as well as a number of guests from PCNA.

The Extended Passing trials are going very well. There was one minor accident that occurred in the braking zone and was not related to the trial. A proposal to adopt extended passing will be made at Parade.

“Escape to The Birthplace of Aviation” efforts are on schedule. Their website is now up and running. They are not yet ready to begin registration.

Please share any information you have from your region that you feel really good about or would be of interest to the rest of us in the Zone.

If you have any questions, let me know.

Best to you all,

Ken Hold  
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