

5. Reports

Porsche Clubs Latin America

Porsche Clubs in Latin America expanding

Thanks to the Porsche Clubs in Latin America, Porsche owners in this region have enjoyed a host of different events for a number of years. They range from the Porsche Club breakfast to outings, driving events and informal meetings. The clubs play an important role in the leisure time of Porsche customers, and offer ideal opportunities for enjoying the vehicles to the full in a safe environment. There are now ten Porsche clubs in Latin America with over 1,500 members – clear evidence of the close commitment and loyalty to the brand. Here are some examples of the club's activities in recent months:



Porsche Club de Mexico New regions established

The active members of the Club Porsche Mexico and the Director of Porsche de Mexico, Fernando Flores Beristain, approved the inclusion of two further regions on the occasion of an extraordinary meeting held on the 3rd of September. Jorge Rios Hellig, President of the Club Porsche Mexico, welcomed the regions of Puebla and Aguascalientes by handing over the official club logo to their representatives. In doing so, he and his predecessor Sergio Nieta were living up to their promise to support the establishment of new regions in Mexico. Despite its 15-year existence, the club had not had a presence outside Mexico City.

Porsche Club Dominican Republic Out on the racetrack

On the 6th of August 2005 members of the Porsche Club Dominican Republic met at the Santo Domingo race circuit to test the latest Porsche models. Over 50 vehicles gathered at this Porsche Sport Driving Experience, which had been organised by the local Porsche dealer. Local instructors representing Porsche AG offered helpful tips for an optimum driving style. The club, which was founded in 2001, sets particular store by Porsche's motorsport tradition on the occasion of its meetings, and therefore the race circuit has become a "second home" to club members.



**Porsche Club Argentina
Many activities**

The Argentinian Porsche importer Nordenwagen S.A., which also represents the Porsche Club Argentina, arranged a Sport Driving School in August 2005, based on an official Porsche Sport Driving programme. A Porsche AG instructor also attended this two-day event at the military site of Campo de Mayo outside Buenos Aires. The Porsche Club Argentina is one of the most active clubs in Latin America and organises numerous events. Planning includes, for example, a Cayenne Week with a trip through the beautiful Patagonia and the annual Porsche Festival at the racing circuit in Buenos Aires. In July, the club had undertaken an unforgettable tour to Germany, which included a trip through the Black Forest, several laps of the Hockenheimring, and a visit to the Zuffenhausen plant.



**Porsche Club do Brazil
Sport Driving Schools**

The sport driving schools are very popular with the Brazilian Porsche Club. The events held in Curitiba and at the Interlagos Formula One track alone attracted more than 60 drivers. The events calendar includes three Sport Driving Schools, a Porsche Club Racing Festival and, of course, six racing weekends for the newly-established GT3 Cup Challenge. With some 250 members, the Porsche Club do Brazil is the largest Porsche Club in South America.

Contact addresses:

Adela Schormair
Porsche Club Argentina
Tel.: +54 11 4795 97 86
Fax: +54 11 4795 25 56
E-mail: aschormair@porsche.com.br

Eduardo Dominguez
Porsche Club Dominican Republic
Tel.: +1 809 566 61 55
Fax: +1 809 381 01 45
E-mail: autoeuropa@codetel.net.do

Francisco de Barros
Porsche Club do Brazil
Tel.: +55 11 5644 67 07
Fax: +55 11 5644 67 05
E-mail: porscheclub@porsche.com.br

Jorge Rios Hellig
Porsche Club de Mexico
Tel.: +52 55 56 19 86 21
Fax: +52 55 56 19 81 90
E-mail: porscheclubmx@yahoo.com

Ragnar Schulte
Porsche Latin America, Inc.
Tel.: +1 786 206 72 48
Fax: +1 786 425 22 12
E-mail: schulte@porschelatinamerica.com

Porsche Club of America, Golden Gate Region

Boxsters of the California Highway Patrol



It is a story to make you smile. A few months ago, the word was that the California Highway Patrol (CHP) would be discarding its Camaros and replacing them with Porsche Boxsters. It soon turned out to be a misunderstanding. But we're sticking to the facts. Yes, there had been a Porsche Boxster in the CHP Outfit, temporarily – but it was only the one.

The story began when Officer Herman Quon had the idea of using a Porsche Boxster to draw attention to the CHP's "Designated Driver Program". The idea of the campaign was to prevent road accidents caused by excessive consumption of alcohol. The advice given is simple but effective: Anyone planning to spend a cosy evening drinking wine or beer should nominate a driver beforehand who would remain sober and get everybody home safely.

Carlsen Porsche in Redwood City wanted to support the campaign and the original idea, and temporarily provided a Boxster S which Officer Quon, with a few minor adjustments here and there, converted to make it look like a standard police car. For example, he covered the doors with a white protective foil to which he applied the CHP crest. At the rear he provided a Highway Patrol logo made from stick-on letters.

The car soon became a top eye-catcher, being used, for example, at a charity event, where it was the lead vehicle in a parade consisting of 55 exclusive vehicles on Highway 1. The CHP presented the Porsche at various opportunities, and, following several jocular remarks made by officers, the rumour referred to at the beginning soon gained momentum. Officer Quon can still be satisfied with himself.



The Boxster has been an outstanding success in accomplishing what he set out to achieve with the "Designated Driver Program".

Source:
August edition of "The Nugget" of the Porsche Club of America, Golden Gate Region

Photos: Ron Kimball
www.ronkimballstock.com

Porsche Racing Club Finland

Good Start



The Porsche Club Finland is one of the oldest Porsche Clubs in northern Europe, and will celebrate 35 years of its existence in 2006. Driver training has always played a key role in the club's activities. Ever stricter safety regulations, however, have made informal competitions on race circuits visibly more difficult over the years. However, with so many people unwilling to give up such events, the Porsche Racing Club Finland (PRCF) was formed in November 2004, growing to over 60 members in a very short space of time. The PRCF is now a member of the Finnish FIA Organisation AKK and is authorised to organise races on a grander scale.

The first event was organised in conjunction with the parent club Porsche Club Finland at the Ahvensito circuit in Hämeenlinna, one of the best-known circuits in Scandinavia. More than 70 Porsches took part in the racetrack and slalom events. For the sake of fairness, the vehicles were split into three

categories. The local Motorsport Club of Hämeenlinna, the Ahveniston Auto-urheilijat, assisted in the organisation of the event and provided valuable professional tips. Everything went off magnificently, with participants and spectators alike enthralled.

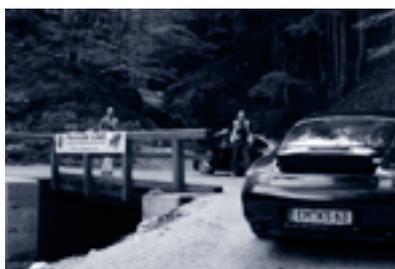
The Porsche Racing Club Finland expects even more vehicles to attend the next event. Members of other Porsche Clubs who would like to race in Finland should contact us. Gentlemen, start your engines.

Porsche Racing Club Finland
 President: Matti Kylämarkula
 Tel.: +358 (0)50 452 86 64
 Fax: +358 (0)10 452 91 50
 E-mail:
matti.kylamarkula@fortum.com



Porsche Club Steiermark

Three Nations Rally: Austria-Slovenia-Italy



This year, 90 participants drawn from Switzerland, Germany, Slovenia and Austria – divided into 42 teams – gathered for the third staging of this challenging event. The Porsche Centre in Graz was the event's starting point. The first stage saw the competitors being checked for regularity in the beautiful Styrian winegrowing country where they had to maintain an average speed of 50 km/h on a section of the route. They then had to complete the same section at a previously-announced average speed of their own choice.

This was followed by other tasks, including a navigation stage in the Caravanche mountain range on the Slovenian border. Anyone finding one of the points they were looking for along the route had to document the find using a digital camera. Participants with good control of their Porsche were later able to collect points during the subsequent slalom



held by the Motorsport Club Ferlach, while connoisseurs of Porsche history could make up ground on their competitors in a quiz.

The second day, which began in Kranjska Gora in Slovenia, proved to be equally demanding. The final competition took place in Italy at the Sella Nevea pass. Everybody then headed for Tarvis where this year's Three Nations Rally drew to a close with a splendid Italian meal.

The two days offered a fantastic mix of routes ideally suited to Porsche and tests which even the well-prepared teams found quite a challenge. This year's winner was Professor Rasto Ovin from Slovenia. His prize was a short flight over Carinthia.

Porsche Club Steiermark
President: Helmut Heuberger
Tel.: +43 (0)316 30 43 28
Fax: +43 (0)316 30 43 28
E-mail:
praesident@porscheclub-stmk.at

Porsche Club Berchtesgaden

Excursion to Obersalzberg



The response to this event, which was arranged spontaneously by Porsche Club Berchtesgaden, was enormous: Numerous club members registered to take part in the event at a brunch in the new Hotel Intercontinental Resort Berchtesgaden, charmingly situated at a height of 1,000 metres. A convoy of 20 Porsches set about tackling the winding road up to Obersalzberg – where the gradient was up to 24 per cent in places. The Club vehicles then parked directly in front of the main entrance to the 5-star hotel.

It was a day when everything went off perfectly: the splendid weather, the variety of the journey, the fascinating mountain panorama with its breathtaking views of the nearby Salzburg region, the legendary Watzmann massive, and last but not least the excellent brunch – all left an overwhelming impression on those who took part.

Porsche Club Berchtesgaden
President: Bernd Buchwinkler
Tel: +49 (0)8652 94 90 13
Fax: +49 (0)8652 94 90 35
E-mail: bernd@buchwinkler.de

Porsche Club Holland

Porsche Zandvoort Days 2005



The second staging of the Porsche Zandvoort Days, organised by the Racing Division of the Porsche Club Holland, was met with a great response. Around 260 participants from 22 Porsche Clubs from all over Western Europe were welcomed to this second July weekend at the Formula One circuit beside the North Sea. Categories included Fun, Sports and Race, with the latter category reserved exclusively for racing cars with slicks.

The variety of vehicles in the field was impressive indeed. They ranged from an early Porsche 928 right through to a present-day white Carrera GT – incidentally the only white example produced to date. Also notable was the large number of GT3 RSs being put through their paces on the route.

Those of the 4,500 visitors arriving in a Porsche were allowed to park in an area reserved exclusively for them. The result was a truly spectacular sight

of Porsche models from a wide variety of years and types.

But it wasn't the races alone which made the route to Zandvoort worth travelling. A total of 985 people took the opportunity to complete a circuit at race pace as passengers. Many younger car fans also completed a circuit as part of the "kiddy event", though at a much more sedate pace.

A Porsche Club Holland information stand, an exhibition of GT3 Cup vehicles and a presentation of classic vehicles initiated by Pon's rounded off this successful event.

Henry de Vaal

Porsche Club Holland
 President: Paul Krieckaert
 Tel.: +31 (0)40 226 48 10
 Fax: +31 (0)73 624 69 59
 E-mail: p.krieckaert@planet.nl



Porsche Sport Club Zürich

**Anniversary
excursion**



Porsche Sport Club Zurich celebrated 45 years of its existence with a four-day excursion which featured numerous high points. It all began on the Thursday with a visit to the Rolls-Royce Museum in Dornbirn and an entertaining guided tour by the head of the museum, Franz Vonier. The visit that followed to the only remaining private dairy in the Lechtal proved that Switzerland does not have a monopoly on good cheese.

The Porsche driving event was the main feature of the second day, not least because of the challenging route over the Hahntennjoch and, of course, there was the Club Gymkhana. An excursion to the neighbouring Bavaria region the following day took participants to sites such as the abbey of Ettal, Schloss Linderhof and Stift Weisskirchen. The event concluded on the Sunday with yet another trip out. This time, the cableway trip in superb visibility was an unforgettable experience. With so many wonderful memories packed away, the Club members then headed for home.

Porsche Sport Club Zurich
President: Kurt Grütter
Tel.: +41 (0)71 988 48 80
Fax: +41 (0)71 988 27 01

Porsche Club Berlin

Club evening on the Wannsee



In August this year Porsche Club Berlin unceremoniously held its members meeting on water for the second time. As before, participants were guests at the traditional Potsdamer Yacht Club (PYC). Board member Christian Voigtländer, himself an active sailor in the PYC, had prepared two 11-metre regatta yachts together with his sailing friends – and then the event was underway.

At Böen in a 6-strength wind both crews, under the command of skipper Jürgen Orders and helmsman Christian Metzger, showed us what it means to sail such large yachts in regatta conditions. As both boats had crews of only three instead of the usual five, some of the Club members took the opportunity to put their sailing skills to the test. Because of the cloudy weather there were very few boats on the

Wannsee – so the conditions were superb for our yachts, “Avanti” and “Sweet Sixteen”, which have had many successes with their experienced crews.

After two eventful hours we re-entered the PYC harbour. Sailors and Porsche drivers then spent a lengthy time together in the cosy clubhouse. A different, but successful, members meeting.

Werner Radtke

Porsche Club Berlin
President: Dietmar Strouhal
Tel.: +49 (0)30 691 90 35
Fax: +49 (0)30 691 70 76
E-mail: strouhal@aol.com

Porsche Club Göppingen

Perfectly staged annual outing



It was obvious from the approach journey from Süßen via Heidenheim and Nördlingen through the romantic Altmühltal that it was going to be a fantastic excursion. Simply everything was right: the beautiful route, the fabulous weather and the enjoyable rest along the way in a typical Bavarian beer garden.

During a further small break at a car park, another Porsche driver surprisingly joined the others, introducing himself as the vice president of the Porsche Club Regensburg and head of the Porsche Centre. This chance meeting was to have its consequences. For Willi Schreiber not only gave us important tips for our stay in Regensburg,

he also invited us to a veal sausage breakfast at the Porsche Centre in Regensburg. His crowning achievement was that he even managed to enthuse Walter Röhrli for this chance meeting, who then signed autographs and recounted some thrilling stories.

It was an experience which was one more highlight of the club outing. But even without this visit to the Porsche Centre Regensburg the programme was a success. Whether it was the convivial evening in Regensburg Old Town, the boat trip on the Donau or the extraordinarily interesting guided tour of the city with a visit to the castle – all of the events were met with great enthusiasm. The finishing touch was the choice of accommodation – the charming Hotel Sorat nestling in the midst of the Donau and, of course, the culinary delights.

In the “Ellwanger Berge” service area on our departure we all agreed that Alexander Moser, the organiser of this year’s 2005 annual outing, had given us some wonderful days with his commitment, and the town of Regensburg the prospect of some returning holiday guests.

We’ll certainly be back!

G. Dangelmaier

Porsche Club Göppingen
 President: Dr. Gerd M. Müller
 Tel.: +49 (0)7162 46 00 0
 Fax: +49 (0)7162 46 00 02
 E-mail: dr.mueller.gingen@t-online.de



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