



DER PORSCHE BRIEF



NORTH FLORIDA REGION

THE 4TH ANNUAL OCHLOCKNEE BAY SEAFOOD EXTRAVAGANZA

Tom and Evelyn Vlasak will host the 4th Annual Seafood Extravaganza at their home on Ochlocknee Bay on May 10, 2008 for North Florida PCA Region Members and their Guests

Details for this year are:

When: May 10, beginning at 1:00 pm

Where: 132 River Drive, Ochlocknee Bay (Zip 32346 for Map quest)

Donation - \$10.00 Adults, kids under 13 free

Please RSVP to **850-878-7543** by May 6th to allow adequate seafood purchases

Planned Menu

U-Shuck oysters (raw or roasted), fresh seafood available locally, peel and eat shrimp, fried oysters, fried grouper, fried snapper, french fries, hushpuppies and coleslaw, desserts and coffee, beer, wine and sodas.

Festivities

Perhaps some show or collector cars, fishing off the dock, boat tours – weather permitting, great socializing and car comparing.

If anyone doesn't like seafood, let us know, we can do chicken breasts, hot dogs and hamburgers.

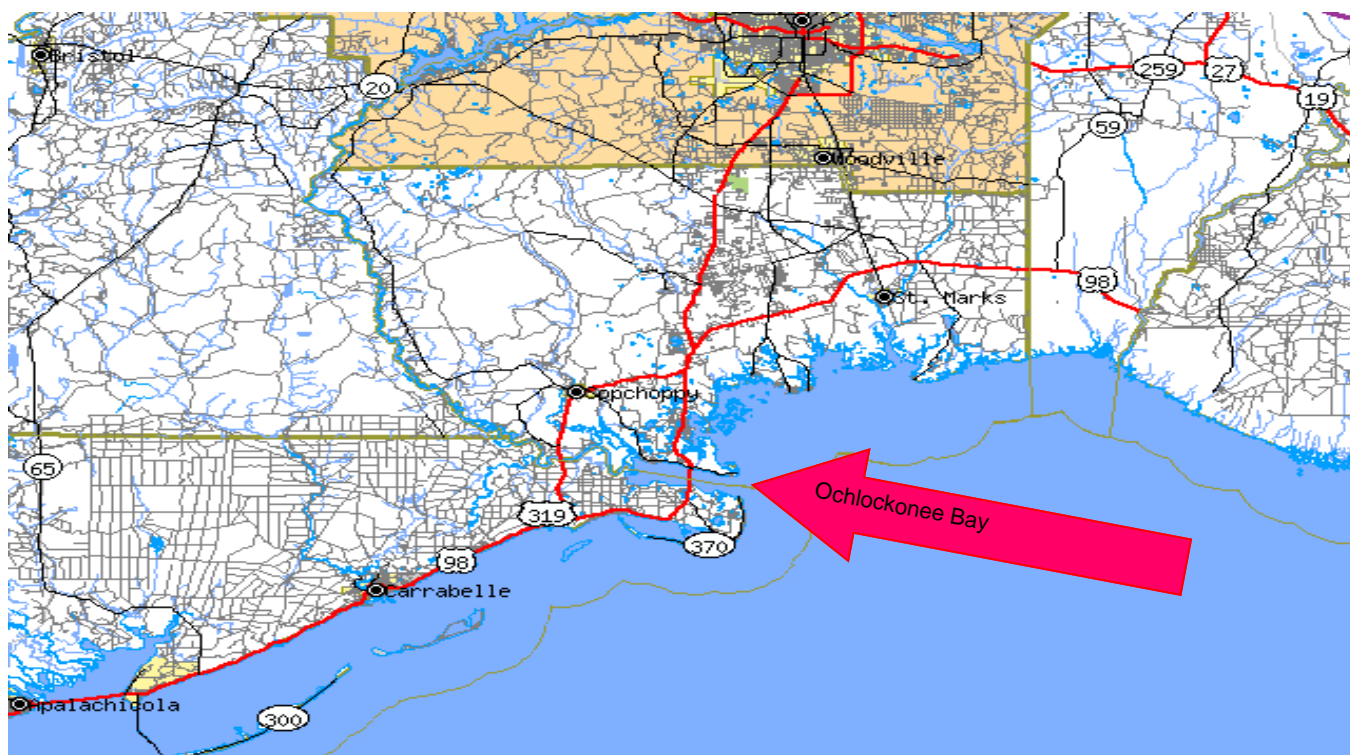
More information on page 2.

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED YOUR BUSINESS NAME OR LOGO ON THE SIDE OF A RACE CAR

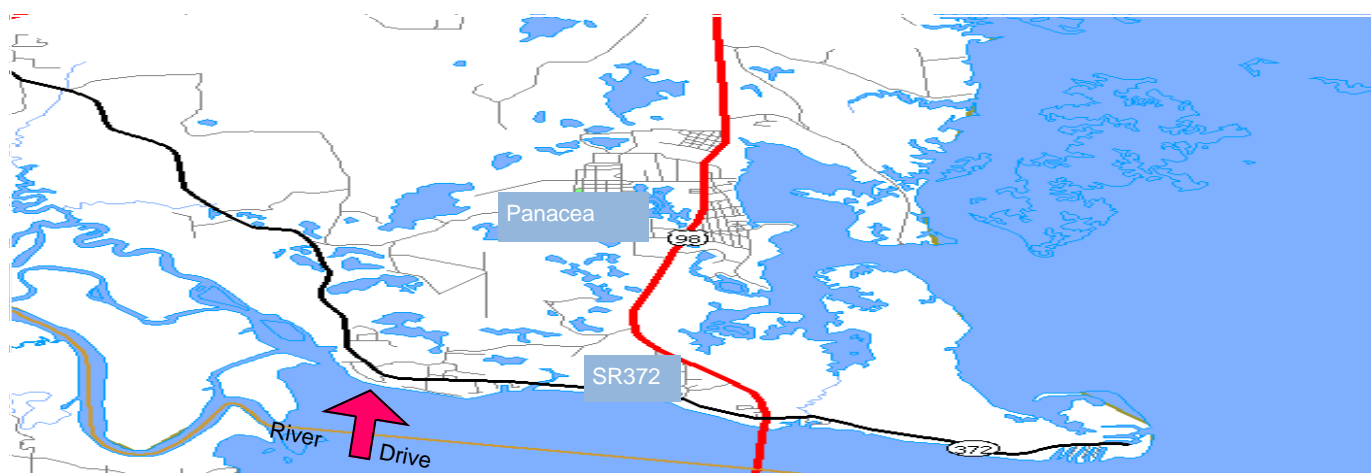


If you have a product or service that would be attractive to the racers, their crews or families that attend the SCCA National Club Racing events please give Tom or Evelyn Vlasak a call at 850-878-7543 to discuss if they can provide at-the-track promotions for you.

Directions to the Seafood Extravaganza



On the map above, the Red arrow points to the Ochlockonee Bay area. The last road west, just north of the bridge over the Ochlockonee River is SR 372 or Surf Road which leads to River Drive. On the local map below-red arrow points to River Drive . The address is 132 River Drive. Call 850 508-6107 if you get lost. (Both maps are from a public domain website. Source info on file.)



CARAVAN TO EXTRAVAGANZA

A caravan of Porsches going to the Extravaganza will meet at Fort Braden Community Park, several miles west of Capital Circle on State Road 20, in the Ft. Braden area at 11:00 AM, and leave at 11:30 AM heading for the Extravaganza. The caravan will be led by Don Boggs, who will be there about 10:45 AM. The park has restrooms and the concession stand may be open. Call 850-284-3741 on the day of the event if you have trouble finding Ft Braden Park.

A Gift Worth Waiting For – My PSDS Experience – Part 2

By Mindy Waters

In the last issue of Der Porsche Brief, I covered the Day 1 of the Porsche Sport Driving School (hereafter known as PSDS for the purposes of this article) and this article picks up with Day 2 (the final day).

The weather was gorgeous the following day and we arrived at the PSDS facility, enjoyed breakfast with our fellow classmates and then assembled in the classroom for more training. We were informed that we would be introduced to more vehicles (the Cayenne S and Carrera S) and would be going off-roading. Barry and I looked at each other thinking off-roading would just take away valuable track time and we're not thinking of buying a Cayenne anyway. The instructors also covered material from the prior day, as well as, new material to include discussions of vehicle dynamics and heel-toe downshifting. Once the classroom instruction was complete, we were directed to our groups and headed in vans to the course.

The first exercise that day was heel-toe downshifting on the Cayman S course. I did pretty well considering, but since I had a driving boot on rather than a tennis shoe the reach was a bit tough. The instructors stated that the pedal cluster on the newer Porsche's is assembled in a manner that you can heel-toe in a tennis shoe. Anyway, just some words to the wise in case you attend.

Next, we went to the skid pad (driving the 911 Carrera Tiptronic-see photo) and were informed we would be participating in Driver Alive contest. runs, one without PSM (Stability Management) engaged and times were clocked down the pad and at the end we were in a box. I did pretty darned well, but am definitely not the fastest driver alive, but that's okay, I can live with that!



the Mobile1 Fastest This time, we took two (Porsche Stability Management) with PSM. Our driving figure 8's on the skid pad had to land in a coned well, but am definitely alive, but that's okay, I

It was time to head to the autocross course (Boxster S again), and we were informed we were participating in a team relay. We were given the rules and regulations and got started. It was very, very fun and I love the Boxster S as a result. Barry got all three segments on video and they are a blast to watch.

Next we did more driving on the track, first in the Carrera and then in the Carrera S. Today we were allowed to introduce shifting on the track (no more staying in 4th for the duration) and things got much more fun, and faster! I began looking forward to going through the various series of turns on this course to practice my techniques. The turn I loved the best is called the "museum turn", which is a spiraling hairpin with elevation changes within it. Wow, what a blast!

Driving the Carrera S was quite an experience and it actually helped me "find myself" on the track. After driving that car my confidence level increased quite a bit, as well as my technique. (Sounds like a good excuse to buy one).

After breaking for another extremely nice lunch, we were shepherded to waiting Cayenne S vehicles for our off-roading excursion. Since I was a bit nervous about what was in store, I encouraged the other gentleman in our group, who was a Cayenne owner, to take the helm. As it turned out, there were only two student drivers in our group and we had two passengers (Barry and another gentlemen's wife).

Off we went following the instructor vehicle with several other student vehicles in tow. We were led to a dirt road near the entrance to the main complex; our group was instructed to stop the vehicles so they could be put into off-road mode. *(continued on next page.)*

Continuation of A Gift Worth Waiting For—My PSDS Experience—Part 2 By Mindy Waters

Once done, we resumed driving, with our instructor in the lead. After meandering through a meadow, we passed a small lake; then we turned and began ascending our first hill. We were totally amazed that the hill was so steep the vehicle actually had a wheel come off the ground. Shortly thereafter, we approached our first descent; I'd estimate this hill was approximately a 60 degree decline. It was absolutely amazing how the Cayenne's internal technology actually detects how to descend a hill (more on that in a minute).

Upon reaching the bottom of the hill and travelling a few yards through the woods, we encountered a water feature up ahead. "Welcome to the Alabama Hot Tub" the instructor announced and we were given instructions on how to cross the water in the vehicle. We were cautioned repeatedly not to open our doors or panic when we went through the water. PSDS stated that a member of the press opened a door while in the middle of the "Hot Tub" and destroyed the interior of the Cayenne. Our venture through the "Hot Tub", while scary, was uneventful and of course, we did not open our doors! I would estimate the water depth to be somewhere around 4 feet deep.

After the water feature and a few more hills, it was time to change drivers. Barry honestly was afraid for me to drive due to the difficulty. My feeling was that I was here to experience all aspects of the course and I was going to do so. My, what a change since yesterday! I hopped into the drivers seat (I can't say I wasn't scared) and got set for my turn.

After driving the vehicles a bit further, we reached the next hill descent. The instructor said, "This hill is steeper than any of the other ones you've been down previously, simply steer down the hill, and do not touch the brakes or the accelerator". He then added, "Oh, by the way, you are guaranteed to get to the bottom of the hill, whether you will have the shiny side up is another thing".

So, I began my descent, the vehicle grunted and groaned while it navigated the slippery wet clay in the midst of numerous rocks. When we reached the bottom, the vehicle was unscathed (as were we) and the shiny side was up! We have the whole endeavor on film and it is amazing. After that we drove quite a few more hills, descents and lots of tight twisties through the woods. I am totally amazed at the Cayenne, it is quite a vehicle, definitely two thumbs up and what an experience!

It was now time to go back to the track for more driving, the confidence level and momentum was definitely up. It was a true disappointment when our sessions were over. It was now time for the instructors to show us how it is really done! They were giving hot-lap rides, in the Cayenne Turbo (which reportedly is as fast as the Carrera S) and the Carrera S. I took rides in both with my favorite instructors and it was quite an experience.

Afterwards, we were escorted back to the vans to return to the classroom facility (of course we were all asked to make certain we didn't leave with any keys to vehicles). We had some short presentations/awards and then a tour of the Barber Museum was offered. The museum is definitely worth seeing, especially for those having an interest in motorcycles or Lola automobiles (Mr. Barber has one of the largest collections of Lola's on the planet).

In closing, PSDS is truly an experience I will cherish for the rest of my life and I am so grateful to my husband for giving me the gift and encouraging me to do this. Barry diligently recorded the event on video and film, thus giving us the ability to reap the benefit of enjoying this over and over again. Would I do it again? You betcha, I'm planning on it!

For further information on PSDS, which is offered world-wide by Porsche, please visit <http://www.porschedriving.com>. Many of the items mentioned within this article are contained on the site, to include: course descriptions/pricing/schedules, track maps/videos and information on the Ross Bridge Resort. Also, if you are considering giving the course as a gift for the woman in your life, there is a Women's only course that merges the course with spa type amenities offered at the Ross Bridge Resort. Additionally, check out the Porsche Travel Club, which is very interesting due to the fact that you can pick your venue from numerous sites world-wide.



Thanks to Steve LaRosa, Rubeen LaRosa (Steve's brother), Steve Roberts and others, for manning the PCA Tent during the North Florida Region's shift at the Race. They

All Photos by Alan Berg

Region Calendar—March/April/May 2008

March

19—6:30 PM, Social at Gill's Tavern, 2545 N. Monroe Street, Tallahassee. Socials are the third Wednesday of every month at Gill's Tavern.

29—10:00AM—Springtime Tallahassee Parade, Downtown Tallahassee. Come out and cheer on your fellow PCA members and their cars participating in the 40th Annual Springtime Tallahassee Parade. We'll be showing off the pride of Zuffenhausen and hope you'll join us for the parade.

April

3—6:30 PM, Social at Cuvee Beach and Wine Restaurant, 36120 Emerald Coast Highway, Destin, Florida. Socials are the first Thursday of every month at the Cuvee.

16—6:30 PM, Social at Gill's Tavern, 2545 N. Monroe Street, Tallahassee. Socials are the third Wednesday of every month at Gill's Tavern.

May

8—6:30 PM, Social at Cuvee Beach and Wine Restaurant, 36120 Emerald Coast Highway, Destin, Florida. Socials are the first Thursday of every month at the Cuvee.

10—Seafood Extravaganza. See pages 1 and 2 for details, and caravan to the Extravaganza.

21—6:30 PM, Social at Gill's Tavern, 2545 N. Monroe Street, Tallahassee. Socials are the third Wednesday of every month at Gill's Tavern.

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