



DER PORSCHE BRIEF



NORTH FLORIDA REGION

PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

Food for Thought—A Brief Adventure with Ethanol

Opinion by Jeff Bartlett

In mid April, I was visiting Lafayette, Indiana on a combination family visit and business trip. I decided to drive because the current state of the US airline industry is slightly south of dreadful. The distance is just a bit over 800 miles and by my calculations, it was less expensive to drive than it was to fly.

My 1999 Mercedes C280, with its twin plug heads and K&N air filter averages between 32 and 33mpg on the interstate with the cruise control set to 77mph. This average held up for the entire trip with one notable exception. Just out side Franklin Tennessee, while filling up I noticed, a small label on the pump. I was pumping E10 into my tank. E10 is unleaded automotive fuel blended with 10% Ethanol. (Check your owner's manual for the Ethanol rating for your vehicle, and be careful at the pump. For example, the 1999 Mercedes C280 owner's manual cautions against using fuel with more than 10% of any additive, including Ethanol.) With a full tank of corn gas, some gourmet Stop-N-Rob snacks, and a clean windshield I was back on the road. The car seemed to run fine and I could detect no ill effects from the GMO fuel sloshing around in the tank. That was until it was time to fill up again!

Although the driving conditions (speed, type of road, use of cruise control, outside air temperature, no A/C) were identical, I noticed a marked decline in fuel economy. Here is the data. On the leg before taking on the E10, I traveled 280.4 miles on 8.629 gallons of gas. This works out to 32.5 mpg, at a cost of \$3.349 per gallon. The leg with E10 covered just 235.5 miles and burned 8.940 gallons of gas, or 26.3 mpg. The Ethanol cost \$3.489 per gallon. The rest of the trip, using no Ethanol blended gasoline, conformed to my normal 32 to 33 mpg fuel consumption.

While I'm not willing to condemn any entire industry based upon one data point, my experience confirmed what I have been reading in the automotive and scientific press. That is Ethanol delivers less energy (miles per gallon) at equal to or increased cost when compared to unaltered gasoline. In my case, I traveled 44.9 fewer miles on slightly more fuel at increased cost. My fuel economy on the Ethanol leg was reduced by 19% when compared to unmodified gasoline.

Now, these are not earth shattering numbers, but multiply my results by the number of cars on the roads, number of miles driven by these cars, and amount of fuel consumed and you have tremendous impact on our energy profile. Add to this the cost of food (increases tied to a drop in corn available for corn dependant food production and a drop in acreage available for other food crops, such as wheat) and the economic impact is far reaching. I saw several Ethanol plants being built or existing plants being converted for Ethanol production in Indiana. It made me think of the IT infrastructure build out that exploded in the early 90s only to go bust later that same decade when the tech bubble burst.

America needs a better approach to meet our future fuel demands than the current system provides. Based upon my experience, I do not think corn based Ethanol will yield the desired results. So let's pause and put America's creative genius to work. We can solve this problem for the wellbeing of the entire planet and we can put the leftover corn back into the moonshine jug where it belongs.

MOUNT DORA ZONEFEST

On Page 3, is a Registration form for the PCA Zone 12 Zonefest on May 23-25, 2008 in Mount Dora, Florida. The Registration form gives information on activities that will take place. Please note the preferred method of registration is on the Website listed in the form, Let's have some attendance from the North Florida Region.

Reminder—Seafood Festival

The 4th Annual Seafood Festival will take place May 10 at 1:00 PM at the Ochlockonee Bay home of Tom and Evelyn Vlasak, at 132 River Drive, Panacea, Florida. Take the last road west just north of the bridge over the Ochlockonee River which is SR 372 or Surf Road which leads to River Drive. See the last newsletter for maps and details. Call 850 508-6107 if you get lost.

Reminder-Caravan to Seafood Festival

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.

Photos from Last Year's Seafood Extravaganza



MOUNT DORA ZONEFEST 2008

May 23 – 25, 2008

Registration Form

Entrant: _____ Region: _____
 Co-Entrant: _____ Phone Day: _____
 Address: _____ Phone Evening: _____
 City, State, Zip _____ Email _____
 Porsche Information: Year _____ Model: _____ Color _____ Body Style: _____
 Modifications _____

FULL REGISTRATION: Includes all events (Welcome Party, Concours, Tech Quiz, Observation Rally, Autocross, Autocross Lunch and Victory Banquet)

Single (\$115) per person; Double (\$165) per couple \$ _____

Late fee (if posted marked after May 17th - \$50) \$ _____

ADDITIONAL TICKETS:

Autocross Lunch @ \$10.00 per person (for non registered guests) \$ _____

Victory Banquet @ \$50.00 per person (for non registered guests) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Check events you plan to attend/enter:

EVENT	ENTRANT	CO-ENTRANT	ADDITIONAL
WELCOME PARTY			
CONCOURS			
TECH QUIZ			
OBSERVATION RALLY			
AUTOCROSS			
AUTOCROSS LUNCH			
VICTORY BANQUET			

Tentative Agenda

Friday, May 23, 2008 (evening) Welcome Party
 Saturday, May 24, 2008 (morning) Concours, Tech Quiz
 Saturday, May 24, 2008 (afternoon) Observation Rally
 Sunday, May 25, 2008 (all day) Autocross (with lunch)
 Sunday, May 25, 2008 (evening) Victory Banquet

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Please register online at www.clubregistration.net (PREFERRED METHOD)

ALTERNATIVE Paper registration: Mail to: Anne DeVillano (address below)

All payments made payable to PCA Zonefest 2008. Send to: Anne DeVillano, 9200 Country Bay Court, Orlando, FL 32819

Make your own room reservations with the Lakeside Inn for the Porsche Club special rate guarantee of \$109 Guaranteed reate ends May 10.

September Means More Porsches In The Carolina Mountains!

By Paul Misencik, Metrolina Area PCA, Huntersville, NC

For the past four years now, I've been organizing and running an event every September called "The Carolina Trophy," which is a five-day, European-style vintage motorcar road rally in the spirit of the Mille Miglia and Rallye des Alpes. The event is based out of Lake Lure, North Carolina and covers 1000km over five days on some of the most sinewy and serpentine roads anywhere. As a loyal Porsche owner and enthusiast, it warms my heart that the best-represented marque every year is Porsche, and 2008 appears to be no exception!

Although registration is still in its early stages, we already have a four-cam 356 Carrera GS entered, a stunning 911SC RS rally replica (in Rothman's livery), two 1955 Speedsters, three 356 coupes, and two early 911's. In addition, we have vintage Ferraris, Jaguars, Aston Martins, Austin-Healeys, and Alpine-Renaults coming from all over the United States, Canada, and even abroad! By the time the field is set, I feel certain we'll have everything from thundering Corvettes to snarling MG's taking the starting line.

Although the Carolina Trophy is technically a "competitive" event, every stage takes place on open public roadways at legal speeds. Each car is piloted by a driver and a navigator, and the rally is timed and scored using a combination of TSD stages and regularity legs, with ample transition stages mixed in to make ensure teams have plenty of time to relax and enjoy the roads and scenery. Some of our entrants take the competitive side of the rally very seriously indeed, while others don't compete and merely enjoy the routes at whatever pace they choose. Regardless, the event is set up to make sure the spirit of adventure, camaraderie, and gentlemanly competition is accessible to every entrant.

Virtually all-inclusive, the Carolina Trophy is set in gracious accommodations and includes meals, beverages, cocktails, events from that make up portion of the peal. By day, charging mountains ing against lunches and invariably teams to con-another, re-venture of the day, and tell fish stories about cars and other topics with a group of passionate, like-minded enthusiasts.



Photo from Paul Misencik

If you love cars, I urge you to come out and experience the 2008 running of The Premier Financial Services Carolina Trophy, which takes place September 14-19, 2008. All vehicles built in 1980 or earlier are eligible to compete, with a "special interest" class available to cars of particular interest built later than that date. We also love to have spectators, we always need volunteers, and unique and affordable sponsorship opportunities exist for forward-thinking companies, so come on out and enjoy the action!

Complete details can be found at www.carolinatrophy.com, or call (704) 351 2087 and ask for Paul! See you in September.

(Editor's Note: This was an unsolicited submission. The North Florida Region takes no responsibility for any consequences of the event or members entering the event. Please make your own investigation of the event.)



All Photos by Alan Berg

Region Calendar—May/June/July 2008

May

1—6:00 PM, Social at Royal B Restaurant just 1 block east of Cuvee Beach on the south side of Hwy 98, Destin, Florida. Socials are the first Thursday of every month. Locations will be announced by email until a replacement location is found for the Cuvee Beach location.

10—Seafood Extravaganza. See page 2 and the last newsletter for details of the Extravaganza and the 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.

June

5-- 6:00 PM Social at Royal B Restaurant just 1 block east of Cuvee Beach on the south side of Hwy 98, Destin, Florida. Socials are the first Thursday of every month. Location is subject to change and will be announced by email until a replacement location is found for the Cuvee Beach location.

18--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.

July

3—6:00 PM Socials at Royal B Restaurant just 1 block east of Cuvee Beach on the south side of Hwy 98, Destin, Florida. Social are the first Thursday of every month. Location is subject to change and will be announced by email until a replacement location is found for the Cuvee Beach location.

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.

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c/o Alan N. Berg
8035 Tennyson Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32309
Phone: 850 906 0803
Fax: 850 906 0803
E-mail: berg43@aol.com

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Located at 1500 Beck Avenue in the historic St. Andrews area of Panama City, FL. We are your Porsche parts and service specialists. We have over 15 years of experience dealing with a wide variety of performance, antique, luxury, and racing vehicles. We strive to offer the best in parts, services and performance for your vehicle. We provide expert advice and installation of performance upgrades, including Turbos, Superchargers, and NOS. We also utilize only ASE Master Technicians and the most modern scan tools and equipment available. We are also a dealer for Unichip, SPEC Clutches and Flywheels, and Pace American trailers. We can get just about any part for your Porsche, BMW, Mercedes or other European make or model. If you need something you don't see in our ebay store, email or give me a call. <http://www.smithmotorworks.com> 1500 Beck Ave. Panama City, FL 32401 (850)769-9500 <http://stores.ebay.com/smithmotorworks>