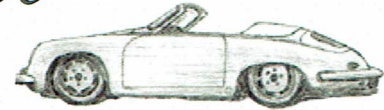




Drei Staaten Gruppe

NEWSLETTER



June/July, 2007

President's Letter

We held our combined general meeting and our Indiana meeting on May 19th at the beautiful home of Scott McCuskey in Madison, IN. It was attended by about a dozen members, of which there were a number of 356's.

We started out with a very wonderful brunch provided by Scott's wife Mary. There were a number of really great homemade pastries and also a very special egg dish that was such a hit, it even had the 356 guys asking Mary for the recipe!

After lunch, we held our meeting and Tom reported that we have approximately \$1,200 in our account but had to make the final payment on the club badges yet. Steve reported that there were a large number of people going to the East Coast Holiday, somewhere in excess of 15 members, and that we should start to work on getting groups together for the drive up. Fred would be leaving on Monday, Dick was leaving on Tuesday from Cincinnati, Ron Kovatch would be leaving on Tuesday from Indy, and Jim & Brenda along with Ted would be leaving from Dayton. Maybe it would be a good idea to get someone from each city to act as the group leader for purposes of getting the cars together, Dick can take Cincinnati, Fred Dayton, Ted Zombeck Columbus, and Bob Kovatch Indy. It might also be possible to have the groups join up somewhere in Michigan.

Our badges should be in shortly, we are even hoping to have them for the holiday. About 30 badges are already spoken for, but there are still some left if you would like to get one for your car.

After the meeting, we took a drive through Madison (what a really nice town) to Scott's storage garage to view his cars and also his motorcycle collection. A bunch of car guys in a place with all that rolling stock and memorabilia...what a nice and interesting place!

After the meeting we then broke up into groups for the ride home. Scott suggested a trip on Indiana 62 back for us and because it was so neat, we decided to take another driving tour there at a later date. Fred is already working on it. A drive down to Madison via 62, lunch in Madison, and then a drive back on other roads including Indiana 356.

Again a very special thanks to Scott and Mary for sharing their lovely home, car and cycle collection, their city, and also the wonderful ride we had back.

Steve Leiding
513.659.5070

Save-The Dates

Please note that event dates are subject to change

SATURDAY, July 28th: P2O in Oxford, Ohio; visit www.porsches2oxford.com for more information and to register. Prizes, trophies, driving tour; over 250 cars expected.

SATURDAY, August 11th, 12:30pm: OVR Fun Rally starting at White-Allen Porsche in Dayton; 648 N. Springboro Pike, near Dayton Mall. All are invited. More info to come or email Dave Raum at dr911@fuse.net.

FRIDAY, August 24th - SUNDAY, August 26th: The 2007 Shawshank Porsche/VW Extravaganza! For more information, go to www.ohiotubfanatics.com or call Richard King at 330.678.6259.

SUNDAY, September 16th: Drive your 356 Day, Dr. Ferry's Porsche's Birthday; meet at the Little River Cafe in Oregonia for lunch from 12noon-2pm; no reservations needed so just show up! Good lunch menu, Sunday liquor, outdoor deck. Plenty of 356 Bull!

SUNDAY, September 23rd: 16th Annual VW/Porsche Reunion; GE Park, Cincinnati

FRIDAY, October 5th - SUNDAY, October 7th: Autumn Derby in Kentucky; registration and German cookout on Friday; Saturday top side only Concours and Rally with awards to follow at dinner; Sunday will be an Autocross. Email Ken Daugherty at kend356@insightbb.com.

SUNDAY, October 14th: Last Chance Driving Tour! Destination: "My Old Kentucky Home" mansion in Bardstown, KY; go to nky.com - old ky. home restored (include periods and spaces when searching). More information to come.

SATURDAY, December 8th: Holiday Dinner Party at the Golden Lamb (www.goldenlamb.com) in Lebanon, Ohio. Cocktails at 6pm with dinner to follow at 6:30pm; more information to come; 2005 participants: 17; 2006 participants: 24

2008: East Coast Holiday - September 4th-7th; Lancaster, PA

On The Way Home To Dayton, Ohio From The Stoddard Swap Meet, I

decided to stop in Columbus, Ohio at the SCHMITT'S German Restaurant for a late lunch/early dinner. This place is known for their German dinners, especially sausage and an unending selection of beer and wines. I drove the SC Coupe slowly down the cobblestone street leading to the restaurant. I was lucky to find a parking space on the side of the street, three cars away from the entrance to Schmitt's. I had plenty of room between cars and I was comfortable parking the recently restored '64 there. I was sitting at my table, waiting for my drink to arrive, when another waitress approached my table and asked me if this was my '356' parked on the street. I said yes and asked how she knew it is a 356. She said she loved these cars, thought they were the best looking car ever and some day was going to own one. She continued on that several years ago three 356's stopped there and she got a good look at them.

There was a champagne yellow car (Randy and Mary Lou Waldrons's A Coupe) that she thought was just beautiful. I invited her to take a closer look at my car, but she declined saying she couldn't leave for a minute as the restaurant was packed and the line was out the door. I told her not to give up on her dream. She smiled and continued mingling with the many guests.

The other two cars were Judge Jim and Louise Graham's, '65 SC coupe, red/black, and my '64 Euro SC Coupe, ivory/red (not restored at that time). Upon leaving the restaurant, I noticed an 'our age' lady looking at my 356. I could tell immediately that she knew what she was looking at. This was not some 'hot rod bimbo' wanting me to drag race her up and down the street. I slowed my pace, watching her circle the SC, looking at the car intently while respectfully keeping a four foot distance between her and the coupe. She was still looking at the car when I approached. I asked her if she had any questions about the car. When she looked up at me I saw her smiling face. She told me that she was the original owner of a '65 Coupe. I was surprised by her statement. When I asked her where she parked it, she told me that she had not driven the 356 for over 20 years and that the last time she had driven it the brakes got really hot so she just parked it. She said that the interior needs to be totally restored and that some rust is also showing. (continued page 3)

Drei Staaten Gruppe Visits Gmund

While Mary and I were planing our "driving trip" from Munich to Madrid we realized we could visit Gmund(Karnten), Austria where Porsche set up it's first small factory and built some forty plus alu-



minum bodied 356 coupes before moving up to Stuttgart in 1950. These 49 or 51 cars are famously known as the Gmund Coupes. Gmund is still a walled city and is just off the A10 about 60 miles south of Salzburg. I arranged to take the club banner with us so we could take some pictures with it.

One of the original (of three) wood buildings stands two kilometers from the edge of town and is simply fenced off with a sign recognizing it as part of the original "sawmill" building site. In town is a small



but very nice museum owned by Helmut Pfeifhofer devoted to Porsche. We followed the signs to "Porsche Automuseum". There we met Eva, who spoke excellent

English, and after showing her our banner and pictures of our speedster she was very helpful. She allowed us to pose next to the cars and took our picture. We then met the owner, Herr Pfeifhofer, who did not speak English but offered to pose with our banner in front of his museum (note 356 awning in photo above). You can check his site out at www.auto-museum.at/.

Before leaving Gmund we took some pictures of our car in front of the city gates that are visable in some of the early Porsche pictures. After spending a delightful four hours we headed on to Cortina, Italy. It was great to visit one of the birthplaces of our 356 Porsches.

Scott McCuskey

(On The Way Home - continued from page 2)

She said she purchased the car new from a Porsche dealer in California and drove the car to Columbus, Ohio when she moved there. The car was complete except for the tool kit which somehow got lost. She said she changed the muffler to a BURSCH shortly after she purchased the car, and that she still remembered that beautiful sound of the exhaust. I asked her if she was planning to restore the car. She said no, that she was spending her money on traveling, but that if her two adult daughters were interested in the car they could have it and restore it. I told her that my car was a '64, basically the same car she had sitting in her garage. She told me that she used to drive her two young daughters to the pool and back, one would sit in the passenger seat stretched out with the back of the seat down and the other daughter would curl up in the back of the car. I asked her if she would like to sit in the car. She looked at me with a "pleasantly surprised" reaction. I opened the drivers side door. She slid in to the seat with ease. It was obvious that she had done this many times before. I closed the door slowly and she looked through the door's window at me with an "I can't believe this" look. She rolled the window down without asking which way to turn the crank. She was sitting straight up, looking thru the windshield. She looked in the rear view mirror, reached for the passenger grab handle and then leaned back in the seat, grinning from ear to ear. Her eyes scanned across the instruments. She held on to the steering wheel and turned it several inches from side to side. She rested her hand on the gear shift knob and then reached for the leather covered dash, sliding her hand lightly across it. She turned to the passenger seat and looked at it for some time, while stroking the top of the seat. In that moment, no words were spoken, but I could tell that the fond 356 memories were flooding her soul. She turned and looked at the steering wheel one more time, hands folded in her lap, and just sat there as she enjoyed the moment. She reached for the door handle without fumbling. I opened the door the rest of the way for her. She exited the 356 like one should. "Very nice," she said. I thanked her for the compliment.

We exchanged names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and shook hands, and then she asked me, "Do you know of any good 356 restoration shops in the area?"

356, Fred Uhlmann

2007 Taj Kreuzer Speedfest

Once again the Taj Kreuzers organized a terrific turnout of interesting automobiles for the 2007 Speedfest Car Show, which was held Sunday, May 27, at Lincoln Park in Kettering, Ohio. Gorgeous weather and a picture-perfect setting brought out a wide variety of exotics ranging from early European sports cars to brand-new Corvettes and even a "sport compact tuner" or two thrown in. As in previous years, Zuffenhausen's finest dominated the show. I didn't bother to count, but there must have been nearly 100 Porsches on display, including an early and pristine 911 RSR, which took best of show.

The Drei Staaten Gruppe was well represented with several members presenting their 356's, including the Boettcher gang (Peter, Matthew and Adam), Bill Heinemann, Tom Griffiths, Dick Weiss, Bill Goepper, Fred Uhlmann, as well as Brian Schroeder and Steve Smith, both of whom brought their Beck 550 Spyder replicas.

One special note worth mentioning was that racing legend Vic Elford, who was on hand as the grand marshal, picked Brian's 550 to receive the "Vic Elford Award," a trophy going to the car that "Vic would most like to drive home."

I'm sure the Taj website, www.tajmagaraj.com, will be updated soon with a complete list of award-winners and photographs from the event.



Photo above shows a few Cincinnati-area members who met and caravanned to Kettering together.

Steve Smith

East Coast Holiday (Harbor Springs)

Our club had an excellent turnout for the Holiday with many members including Bob Kovatch, Dick Weiss, Tom Oerther, Fred Uhlmann, Jim Graham, Ted Zombek, Ken Daugherty, Jim Perrin, Steve Leiding, David Jones, Scott McCuskey, Glenn Jividen, and Russell Clarke.

There were not any large groups that went up together. Three would have been the largest, though Steve Leiding broke a fly wheel on the way up and had to stop for repairs but keeping the faith, made it.

Tuesday was mostly registration at Boyne Highlands, a super nice resort just north of Harbor Springs, Michigan. It is set up like a ski lodge and also has a couple of golf courses for some very fantastic views. Rooms were very spacious and many included loft sleeping areas.

Wednesday included a number of activities including a drive into the Michigan wine country. The evening was open and many of us explored some very excellent restaurants in the area after a stop at the hospitality room.

Thursday was a day of driving events that included the hill climb and the Gymkana. Ted Zombek finished 8th in the hill climb and to but this really big accomplishment in perspective, Vic Skimats finished 5th. We were all proud of Ted. Tom Oerther and Steve Leiding entered the Gymkana and finished 5th based on their second run. They killed at least 5 pylons on the first run.

Thursday night was again an open night and everyone went into town to continue exploring the great restaurants. Prior to leaving for dinner, many of us experienced a really special wine and cheese tasting.

Friday saw a split in activities that had a group taking a wonderful drive up the coast to Makinac Island and many others exploring the many side roads and towns around the area. The road included a 19 mile drive through the tunnel of trees to Cross Village. Friday night included a special event to honor Chuck Stoddard and his many years of involvement with Porsche.

Saturday was the Peoples Choice Concours including a special lunch on the grounds.



Below is a picture of many of the Convertible "D"s at the show.



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TECH TIPS...



Tech Tip: Carrera means "On The Run"

Tech Tip: Windshield and glass cleaners. If you are using a grocery store bought window/glass cleaner on your 356 - STOP. About 99% of all glass cleaners you find in aisle #5 between the toilet bowl cleaners and drain pipe unclogging products may contain alcohol and/or ammonia. Both of these chemicals love to "eat" rubber, especially 50-year old windshield seals made in Germany. Overspray on to your original paint or old re-paint could also cause problems over time. Your local Auto Parts Store should have what is best for 356, but read the ingredients listed on the label before you buy. When in doubt, "GOOGLE" the ingredients.

Tech Tip: When wiping a dip stick, always use a lint-free cloth or lint-free paper towel.

Tech Tip: Go on a spirited drive right after you have washed your 356, applying the brakes often. It is important to have dry brakes before parking the car. It will also blow water out of the 'nooks and cranny's'. RUST NEVER SLEEPS!

Tech Tip: The 356, 6 volt flywheel, driven by a 6 volt starter, has 109 teeth, a 12 volt flywheel has 132 teeth. They are NOT interchangeable, a 6 volt flywheel can not be put on to a 12 volt starter. (confirmed by 356 MD, Dick Weiss)

If you have any Tech Tips you would like to share, e-mail them to euro356sc@hotmail.com This is NOT a 356 Talk list, no questions about what tire, battery, oil, etc. I should use. Keep your explanation short and to the point. Don't be pissed off if your Tech Tip is not published.

Mid-Ohio Vintage Grand Prix



As a 1967 Porsche 910 power-drifted its way out of Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course's esses, known to racers as the "Madness" section of the 2.4-mile track, Brian Schroeder and I knew instantly we had stumbled upon a special event. Having never attended the Vintage Grand Prix at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio, neither of us knew what to expect. Let me tell you - we had a blast!

On July 1st, Brian and I made the 3-hour drive from Cincinnati to the track arriving just in time to watch a few vintage race cars finishing up their morning practice runs. As the track was prepped for the first round of actual races, we had time to take in the car show that was held in conjunction with the race. The concours featured probably around 100 cars ranging from vintage European sports cars (a red 356 C coupe was there) to brand-new exotics. It appeared as though you could simply drive up, pay your registration fee and enter the show, but I'd confirmed that at www.midohio.com. What's more, all those who register for the classic car show were allowed to take their cars out on the track for two parade laps. Brian and I were kicking ourselves for not bringing our Spyderys.

Just as we began to complete our stroll through the assemblage of fine automobiles, the track began to roar back to life with the howl of vintage racing power plants. The Grand Prix is arranged with roughly 10 classes, each class competing in a 10-lap race with a 15-minute break between races.

(continued page 6)



(Mid-Ohio continued from page 5)

Classes range from small displacement machines (which included, if you can believe it, a race-prepped VW Super



Beetle) to a full-on prototype class, which included the aforementioned 910. Two other highlights included the group of 60's-era open-wheel formula racers, as well as the Trans-Am style group, which included a bevy of 60's-era Corvettes, Camaros, Mustangs and E-types. If you haven't attended a vintage race before, I can tell you that seeing...and hearing...a group of 20+ muscle cars accelerate at full throttle down Mid-Ohio's back-straight was truly awe-inspiring.

As if the car show and vintage racing weren't enough to satisfy any gearhead, Mid-Ohio's garage area is also open to the public, meaning you can get an up-close view of these historic racing vehicles. In fact, while in the garage area, Brian and I spot-

ted a 917 with a "for sale by owner" sign. If you have an extra million to spare, I can e-mail you the phone number listed on the sign!

All in all, I can't imagine a much better event for car enthusiasts. In fact, we should consider a Drei Staaten Gruppe caravan for next year. For a \$20 ticket, plus the fee to register your vehicle, you can participate in a concours, take a parade lap of Mid-Ohio, and witness historic racecars slicing and dicing their way through one of the nation's best road courses. Not bad for a Sunday.

Steve Smith

Photos by Brian Schroeder

(East Coast Holiday continued from page 4)



Above left is a row of all great "C" coupes. Above right is another row of "C" open cars including Tom Oerther's 1st Place winner.



Above left is a group of "A" coupes with two from our club. Above right is a group of club members' cars that were around after the concours.

The Drei Staaten Gruppe also had success in the concours to go along with what happened on the hill climb and gymkana. The following members were awarded well-deserved awards: Tom Oerther (First Placed "C" open), Jim Perrin (1st Place in specialty class), Steve Leiding (2nd Place in Roadster, Bob Kovatch (3rd place in "C" Coupe), Dick Weiss (5th place in "A" Coupe, and Jim Graham (6th place in "C" Coupe). Our club came home with a grand total of 8 awards.

It was a very fun time and I hope we can have another excellent turnout next year for the holiday in Lancaster, Pa. Thanks again to all who shared the fun. If I missed someone that was there, please let me know so we can include you in our next issue.

Steve Leiding