THE DREI STAATEN GRUPPE MONTHLY

356/365

APRIL 2008

IT'S SPRINGTIME IN FLORIDA!

THE DREI STAATEN GRUPPE MONTHLY

356/365

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On the cover:
In Cincinnati's last snowstorm of the winter, Ken Allison of Lexington, Ky., pulls his 904gts out of Metalkraft and into a trailer for the journey to the Amelia Island Concours.
Photo by Rick Disney

From the Editors

Brian and I recently drove to Nashville, TN, to visit our Porsche/VW friend Chase Gober, and pick up some wheels Brian purchased in the area. Chase has an "old-school" Roadster, which Brian and I drooled over the entire weekend. By "old school," I mean to say that the car is a pure driver with patina from fore to aft, yet a screaming engine and solid mechanicals that make driving this open 356 a uniquely invigorating experience. Chase was gracious enough to allow both Brian and I a turn at the wheel, and the car reminded us both of what a 356 is all about…less detailing and more driving. Chase and his VW enthusiast father, Jerry, recently completed the build of a 550 Spyder Replica in the rare color of French Blue—you may have seen it at last year's Porsche/VW Reunion.

Speaking of Spyders, in case you didn't hear and/or see it, the modern Porsche Spyder—the DHL-sponsored, Penske-owned RS Spyder—won the overall victory March 15 at the 56th Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring. The victory over the more powerful Audi and Peugeot diesels harkens back to the days of the 356, 550 and RS60s, when Porsche earned its reputation as a Giant-killer.

You can see the modern RS Spyder up-close in July, when the American Le Mans Series comes to Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio. Even like this represent a unique opportunity for our club, and it seems like a good time to announce something new we would like to try:

LET DSG MEMBERS KNOW WHEN YOU ARE DOING SOMETHING 356-RELATED

The next time you plan to do something 356 related—whether it's a Sunday drive, a trip to Mid-Ohio for a race, or maybe a mechanical project—if you want some company, be sure to email me (stevejsmith356@yahoo.com) and I will e-mail it out to the rest of the club (I typically have the most up-to-date email list).

Here's an example of what I mean. Say Peter Boettcher decides he wants to take his 356 out to Milford, Ohio, for their weekly Friday night car cruise-in. Peter Boettcher emails me to let me know, and I'll email the details out to the rest of the club. Next thing you know, five other 356s show up to join Peter, thus creating an unplanned, informal, yet enjoyable Drei Staaten Gruppe event.

Or, for instance, say Steve Leiding decides he is going to travel to Mid-Ohio for the Vintage Races. He emails me, I email it to the entire club, and next thing you know, eight other DSG members contact Steve to let him know they want to attend as well, and drive their 356s up in a caravan.

So, next time you plan something car-related and you think other DSG members might be interested, be sure to email me (stevejsmith356@yahoo.com), and I'll push the word out to the entire club.

—Steve Smith

Disclaimer: We're just two young dudes who happen to love old cars. So, as the saying goes about youth being no substitute for the wisdom, we really can't vouch for any of the information contained herein. Dates are subject to change, misspellings may be found, and in the words of Fred Uhlmann, "We are responsible for nothing." Also, reading this newsletter while driving your 356 may be hazardous.

STEVE SMITH

Amelia '08

2008 AMELIA ISLAND AWARDS SEVERAL CARS WITH A LOCAL CONNECTION

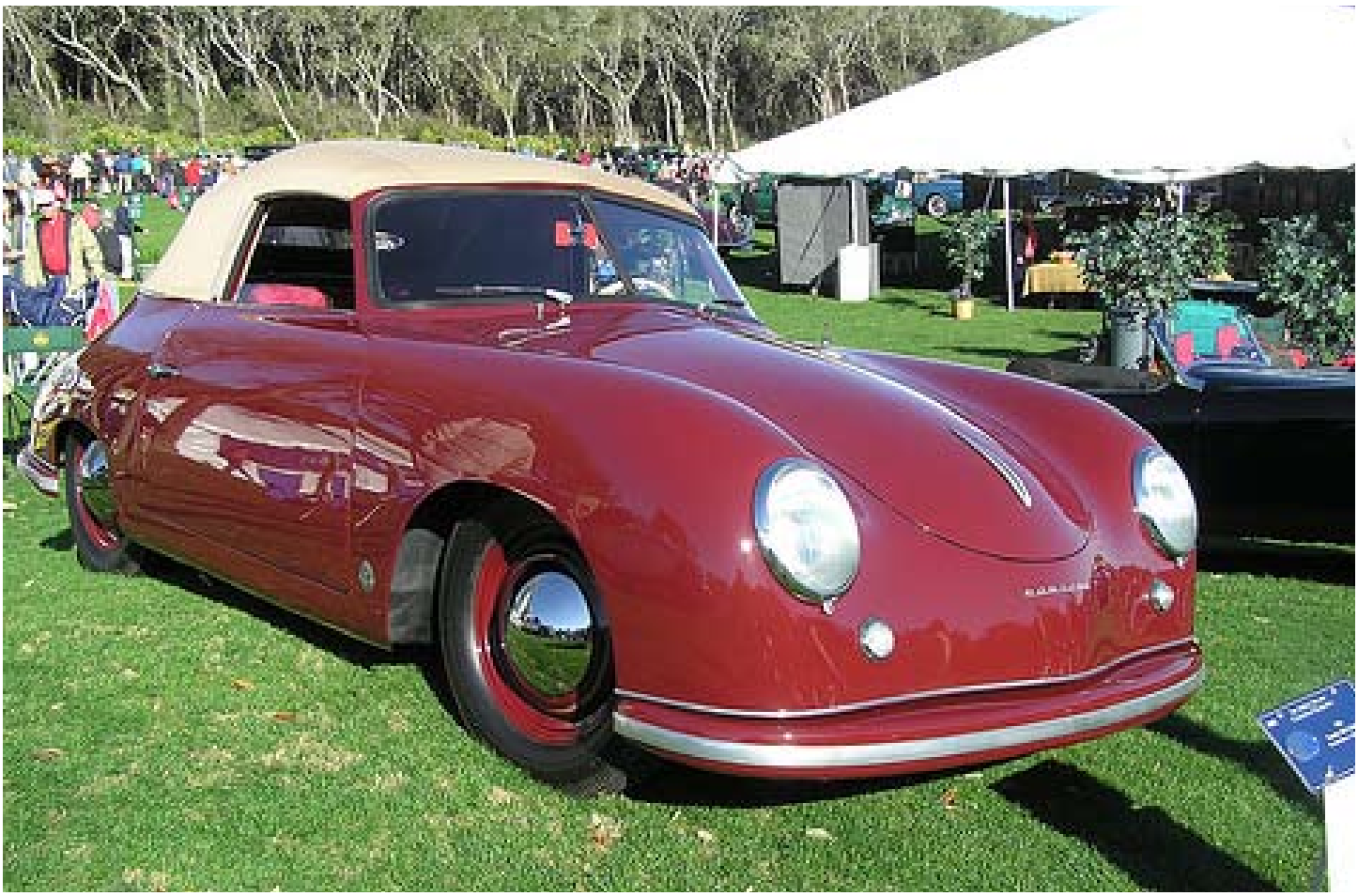
Widely recognized as one of the most prestigious automotive events in the U.S., the 2008 Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance took place March 7-9, at The Ritz-Carlton and The Golf Club of Amelia Island, Amelia Island, Fla.

Several 356-era Porsches were on display at the event, including a few with DSG connections. For example, the Amelia Concours invited DSG member Brett Johnson, Indianapolis, Ind., to display his restored 1951 Gläser Cabriolet.

The class winner for Race Cars (1961-1979) was a 1964 Porsche 904 GTS owned by Ken Allison, Lexington, Ky. For the last several months the car could be seen at Metalkraft Coachwerkes, where Mark Schlachter and the crew were finishing off the car's restoration.

Last but not least the Amelia Concours awarded "The Porsche Trophy" for the most outstanding Porsche to Don and Carol Murray, Laguna Beach, Calif., and their 1955 550-067 Spyder. What's the local connection you ask? 550-067 was once owned by DSG member Jim Perrin, who in turn sold the car to Dayton collector John Dixon.
The Spyder was the 1955 Paris Auto Show car, and fittingly, was painted in French Blue at the factory. Somewhere along its life the Spyder was painted in a blue-silver. Reportedly, when Mr. Murray purchased the car last year it was sent to Gary Kempton, who was able to "rub" out most of the silver, revealing the original French Blue below. Areas that couldn't be buffed out were repainted. In addition the car was "freshened up," it's 4-cam put back in, all in time to take home honors at Amelia.

In addition to its provenance as the Paris Auto Show car, the Spyder was owned by French racing driver Jean Behra—note the four cam fan shroud featuring Behra's personalization.



Dr. Brett Johnson's '51 Cab, the restoration of which was covered extensively in Excellence *magazine.*

550-067 at Amelia Island (top) and in John Dixon's Taj Ma Garaj before returning to its original French Blue color. This Spyder was the 1955 Paris Auto Show car and once owned by racer Jean Behra.

SURVEY WHAT WE LEARNED FROM YOUR ANSWERS

IN MARCH all Drei Staaten Gruppe members were sent an online, 10-question survey about the club and its events. 33 out of 78 members responded, making the response rate 42%. Below are the results. The written responses were edited/consolidated for space. Thanks to all who completed the survey, we'll use the results to plan club activities.

Which of the following club activities have you participated in and how would you rate them?

	Don't repeat	Somewhat enjoyable	Very enjoyable	Did not attend
Annual Holiday Party	0.0% (0)	3.4% (1)	51.7% (15)	44.8% (13)
Driving Tours	0.0% (0)	6.7% (2)	46.7% (14)	46.7%(14)
Tech Sessions	0.0% (0)	3.7% (1)	55.6% (15)	40.7% (11)
Caravan-ing to other	0.0% (0)	3.6% (1)	42.9% (12)	53.6% (15)
VW/Porsche Reunion	0.0% (0)	6.9% (2)	62.1% (18)	31.0% (9)

Of those activities you most enjoyed, why did you like them so much?

• Because I was enjoying my car with other people who were enjoying their cars. I think cars were meant to be driven, not put on a pedestal.

• As the club has struggled to get a steady turn out, it has been fun to expand the club members on joint events such as P2O, East and West Coast Holidays, Taj, and the Columbus show

• The swap meet and seeing old friends

• Just the getting together and sharing experience and knowledge.

• I enjoyed the caravan immensely... on the way back from the ECH. Work conflicts prohibited me from attending driving tours and the weather stopped me from the holiday party.

Of those activities you like the least, why didn't you like them and what can we do to improve them?

• Big dinner events aren't my favorite.

• The driving tours have not been very successful and the turn out has been very low.

• There are no activities I don't like, I just don't have the time to travel to participate unless there is a good reason for me in particular.

• Reunion just seemed like a long day and terrible music.

Have you visited the club Web site?

Yes	69.0%	(20)
No	31.0%	(9)

Any special features you would like to see on the Web site?

• More club items for sale

• Some way to make it appear like it is being updated continually. An example would be the time ticker on the P2O site that counts down when the next P2O will be. example: 125 days 2 hours 20 seconds

• Tech tips and new products for 356s

• Some way to find out who is planning to go to some of the other events to be able to car pool or caravan. e.g. The Hershey Swap Meet

What other club activities/features/club events and/or tech session topics would make your membership in the Drei Staaten Gruppe more valuable?

• Driving events

• Once every other year joint event with some other car clubs, either other 356 clubs or other clubs such as Jaguar, Healey, etc.

• Cruise night

• Low key competitive events or even a drivers Ed for a reasonable price with some non car breaking track time

• Restoration topics...ie...Dash controls "Pre-A thru C". Glass identification... tire research...etc.

• Summer barbecue at member's house, or at a local county park.

• Attend vintage race weekend eg. Mid Ohio, Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. How about a 356 autocross, or fun rally.

• Panel, floor & chassis restoration --- cleaning, scraping, rust removal, cut/patch/repair/align, weld, prep, prime and paint.

Please rate the following features we could add to the Web site in terms of how valuable they would be to you.

	Not valuable	Somewhat valuable	Very valuable
Club News	7.4% (2)	14.8% (4)	77.8% (21)
Calendar of Evts	7.4% (2)	3.7% (1)	88.9% (24)
Photo Gallery	7.7% (2)	23.1% (6)	69.2% (18)
Video Gallery	8.3% (2)	41.7% (10)	50.0% (12)
Links to 356 and related Web sites	8.0% (2)	32.0% (8)	60.0% (15)
Message Board/ Discussion Forum	8.0% (2)	36.0% (9)	56.0% (14)
Member Dir/ Contact List	3.7% (1)	18.5% (5)	77.8% (21)
Member's gallery	7.7% (2)	30.8% (8)	61.5% (16)
Archive of Newsletters	8.0% (2)	48.0% (12)	44.0% (11)
Expert's List	8.0% (2)	24.0% (6)	68.0% (17)
Parts Swap	11.1% (3)	22.2% (6)	66.7% (18)
For Sale/Wanted	7.4% (2)	18.5% (5)	74.1% (20)

Please rate the following possible tech session topics based on your interest.

	Not interested	May Be interested	Very interested
Basic tune-up	10.7% (3)	25.0% (7)	64.3% (18)
Valve adjustment	14.8% (4)	25.9% (7)	59.3% (16)
Carb tuning/rebuilding	10.3% (3)	31.0% (9)	58.6% (17)
Steering box rebuilding	17.9% (5)	35.7% (10)	46.4% (13)
Suspension tuning	25.0% (7)	32.1% (9)	42.9% (12)
Concours prep	32.1% (9)	32.1% (9)	35.7% (10)
New products	6.7% (2)	50.0% (15)	43.3% (13)

We've discussed a number of new activities and would like your feedback as to your level of interest. Please rank the following possible activities/club features.

	Not interested	May be interested	Yes, please do it
Monthly Sunday breakfast meeting (meet once a month for breakfast and bull, rotated geographically)	16.1% (5)	54.8% (17)	29.0% (9)
Garage tours…see what your fellow 356ers are doing in their garage… what's the latest project	3.3% (1)	33.3% (10)	63.3% (19)
More tech sessions	7.1% (2)	46.4% (13)	46.4% (13)
Parts swap	10.0% (3)	53.3% (16)	36.7% (11)
Experts panel… be a designated expert on a specific topic of restoration or maintenance and willing to help other members out when they have a problem	13.8% (4)	41.4% (12)	44.8% (13)
Caravan to ECH or Hershey or WCH and related events	9.7% (3)	54.8% (17)	35.5% (11)
A true registry on the website or an actual published book, with pictures of members cars and garages	6.7% (2)	53.3% (16)	40.0% (12)
Low key, multi-region event to include a peoples choice concours, swap meet, driving tours, etc…. not a Holiday, more like a North meets South, or Dana Point concours	3.2% (1)	29.0% (9)	67.7% (21)
Driving tours to historic/ scenic locations	0.0% (0)	40.0% (12)	60.0% (18)

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About the Drei Staaten Gruppe:
The Drei Staaten Gruppe was founded in 2004 for Porsche 356 enthusiasts in the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio region. The club, which currently has approximately 78 members, produces a monthly newsletter, maintains a Web site and hosts a range of 356-related events and meetings.

Membership is open to any one with an interest in the Porsche 356. For more information visit www.dreistaatengruppe.com. To join the club, contact Dick Weiss at dweiss356md@fuse.net. Annual dues are $20.

COMPILED BY BRIAN SCHROEDER

TIME MACHINE

EVERY ONE OF US has a story about a car we "could have had for a song." If only we had known then what we know now. On this note, I decided that I'd go through my old *Road & Track* magazines and collect marketplace ads featuring our cars. Don't you wish you had a time machine?

1959

1955 PORSCHE Cpe. Excellent condition w/oil filter, three piece case, fully reclining seats, record of service. $1850. W. H. Pike, 1107 S. Linden, Normal, Ill.

1959 PORSCHE Super Conv. D. Ruby, like new, HL-engine polished, Spyder brakes/ mirror, Konis, racing valve springs/clutch, 4 extra Michelins, many spares, factory manuals, bucket seats, Frankfurt radio, rear cushion, luggage rack, aluminum wheels. $4500. Ted E. Hettler, 1227 1st Ave. SW, Great Falls, Mont.

1959 PORSCHE 1600 GT Carrera Spdstr. Weber carburetors, limited slip differential, Sebring exhaust. Tuned at factory, very fast. Reason for sale: forthcoming marriage. William Linder, 2 Gibbes Crt., Columbia, S. C.

PORSCHE 550 SPYDER always places, 3 firsts, never less than 3rd this year, is 3rd in points for West Coast. Ready to race, with space frame, Koni shocks, latest front spindles, lightened to 1350 lbs. 8 hrs. on RS engine, Weber carbs, 9 wheels with good tires, metallic blue paint. $3500. Will take trade. Don Wester, 23344 Camino Hermosa, Los Altos, Calif. WH 8-3381.

1954 PORSCHE. For sale or trade. Terra cotta, chrome wheels, radio, leather, 4000 miles on factory 1500 eng. Excellent cond. Consider Mercedes trade. 1957 Volkswagen eng., 9300 mi. Best offer. D. C. Rogers, 411 W. Edgewood, Linwood, N.J.

PORSCHE-VW. 1500-S in 1957 VW red conv., 6000 since new barrels, pistons, carbs. Fast family trans. $2400. or might buy Porsche cpe. minus eng. A. Eichsteadt, 1625, A-1, Georgia Dr., Urbana, Ill.

1957 PORSCHE CARRERA G.T. cpe. Silver w/black upholstery, Continental tires, this fabulous machine is in excellent cond. Accept best offer. C. M. Whipkey, 1½ So. 3rd St., Grand Forks, N.D. PH 2-4141.

PORSCHE GT Carrera. Winner 5 out of 6 races this year. Absolutely perfect condition with every racing extra including short-track gears, spyder tailpipe, roll bar, head rest, full tonneau cover. This is a race car, not for street. Sell for cash, or trade for RS or RSK. Burney Russell, 5001 Crown Rd., Fort Worth, Tex. MArket 4-9523.

1958 PORSCHE GT Carrera spdstr. Red w/black leather. Less than 3000 miles. Perfect condition. $4300. Franz J. Hannig, 29th & Wilson Sts., Wheeling, W.Va.

1958 PORSCHE 1600-cc spdstr. Red w/beige interior. Perfect condition, always garaged, never damaged nor raced. For delivery to U.S. end of summer. Best offer. Patrick Lane, Gasthof Schwan, Tirschenreuth/Opf., Germany.

1959 PORSCHE Conv. "D" 1600 Standard. Silver, red leather, black top and tonneau cover. Very low mileage, never raced. Best offer over $3575. Call—write Gary Gieseke, 1300 W. Mich., Indiana Univ. Medical Center, Indianapolis 2, Ind.

1959 PORSCHE 1600 cpe. Silver, black leather. New, unregistered. Ordered for May delivery but unable to accept due to addition to family. $3735. C. L. Reed, Jr., 2013 W. Morse Ave., Chicago 45, Ill. AM 2-1682.

1952 PORSCHE 1500-cc Super, wrecked at 10,000 miles. Mechanically good, engine just rebuilt. Custom fiberglass female mold. $1200 cash or terms. H. T. Smart, 935 Galloway St., Pacific Palisades (L.A.), Calif. GL 4-8955.

1959 PORSCHE 1600 Super Sport cpe. Sunroof, red leather upholstery, radio, safety belts, light blue finish, Michelin tires, 5400 miles. Perfect condition. $3400, NO TRADES. F. E. Parts Co., Box 856, Salina, Kan.

1959 PORSCHE GT Carrera Spdstr. Ruby red w/ black upholstery. Many extras, approximately 3500 miles. Asking $4500. Bill Romig, 28330 Hollywood, Roseville, Mich. PRescott 7-3604.

ROLLS-ROYCE Phantom III Barker Sport Cabriolet. Sliding roof. Leather convertible rear quarter. Formerly Sir Laurence Olivier's. Outstanding appearance. Magnificent condition. $3250. Photos/ data folder, 50c. W. C. Wilkinson, Tomahawk Circle, Okemos (near Lansing), Mich.

World's only one! 1958 VW MICRO-SEMI-CAB with 3 storage compartments, 2 gas tanks, radio, trailer. Holds: Car maximum height 42 in., wheelbase 88 in. Electric brakes, cruise 52 mph, hauls 3000 lbs. Dean Causey, RR #1, Carmel, Ind. Phone VI 6-1503, Indianapolis, Ind.

1960

1957 PORSCHE 1600 cpe, Blaupunkt radio, excellent cond., 27,000 mi. Best offer over $2650. Call or write Don Winsand, 90 Finson Rd., Bangor, Maine. TP 2-7480.

1958 PORSCHE spdstr. 13,000 mi., no accidents, excellent cond., FOB Rotterdam. Best offer over $3000. Contact Franz Blaser, Lachen, Switzerland.

1958 PORSCHE Carrera GS cpe. Silver w/red leather. Sunroof, Becker Mexico radio. This car is flawless throughout. 7,000 touring mi., no races. Best of maintenance always. Full car cover and many extras all incl. in a low price. Must sell, make an offer. Douglas Thiem, Box 187, Elm Grove, Wisc.

1958 PORSCHE Carrera GT Spdstr. 6,000 mi., silver gray, black interior, Michelin X tires, $3500. Ed Winship, Southbury, Conn.

PORSCHE Carrera GT cpe. New Dec. '58, 5,500 mi. Excellent cond., private party, Everett Wyers, 4071 Huron Ave., Culver City, Calif. VE 9-1579.

1957 PORSCHE 1600 Cpe. Blaupunkt radio, excellent cond. Reasonable. Call or write Don Winsand, 90 Finson Rd., Bangor, Me. TP 2-7480.

1958 PORSCHE 1600N. A beautiful car, 10,000 mi., cream color w/Blaupunkt radio. Only $2540. Phone 5-2461, Sam Bazzell, Clarksville, Tenn.

1958 PORSCHE Carrera GS cpe. Immac., never raced or wrecked. Ivory w/red int., 12,000 mi., Michelin X's, radio, belts, manuals, electric clock. Consider trade, reasonable. Al. A. Armellini, 1205 Tulip Lane, Cocoa, Fla. NE 6-6067.

PORSCHE Carrera 1600 GT cpe. Feb. '59. White, wooden steering wheel, 12 volt, Webers, Spyder exhaust, no races yet, never bent, 12,000 mi. $4500

PORSCHE RS—Engine completely o/hauled. New paint. Ready to race. E. L. Hall, 2405 Telegraph Rd., Deerfield, Ill. WI 5-0672.

PORSCHE Spyder RS. Silver, No. 193, raced ½ season, Ladies' races. Won first in West Coast Championship points. Never lost a race in '59. Mech. prepared by Vasek Polak in perfect cond. Buying new RSK. Contact Betty Shutes, 2001 N. Hillcrest Rd., Hollywood 28, Calif. Days, HO 5-4194, Eves. HO 5-7975.

1953 RILEY 2.5 RMF, 4-door saloon, interior excellent, orig. paint, engine partially rebuilt last

1957 PORSCHE 1600 cpe. Excellent cond., low mileage, Becker Europa radio. Will trade for Porsche Carrera Deluxe. Gerald Gede, 2022 W. Chase, Chicago 45, Ill.

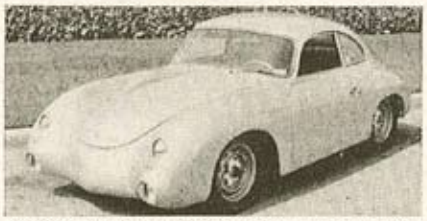
Late **1958 PORSCHE** Carrera GT. White spdstr. 7000 mi., raced 6 times. Never wrecked, perfect cond. Konis, aluminum wheels, spyder brakes. $4100. John Curran, 1148 Brentwood Rd., Cleveland Hts 21, Ohio. EV 1-1059.

1959 PORSCHE Super Cpe. Silver gray w/red interior. Factory set for racing w/limited slip differential, 21 gal. tank and 5.90 Super Record tires. Fully equipped w/chrome wheels, genuine leather seats and Telefunken radio. Low mileage, condition as new. Price $3795, will consider 1960 Corvair in trade. Bert Horton, Box 1851, Jamestown, N. D.

PORSCHE RSK 1600. Ferrari Testa Rossa 2000. Extras. Quitting racing. Make me an offer, will deliver. Richard P. Hogue, 3245 Pope Ave., Sacramento, Calif. IV 3-3657.

1956 PORSCHE 1600 Cpe. Excellent cond, low mi, w/w tires, radio, belts, Abarth muffler. Used as 2nd car, always garaged. Will consider trade, $1995. M. C. Weaver, 308 Ave I, Potomac Park, Cumberland, Md. PA 2-1442.

1956 PORSCHE-Karmann Ghia cpe. Black repeated concours winner, mech. perfect too. Installation of Porsche running gear conforms to best manufacturing practice. J. W. Reece, 105 Pearce Dr., Buffalo 26, N. Y. CI rcle 0055.



PORSCHE 1500 cpe, SHOW CAR, Carrera engine, 30 first place trophies. Silver pearlescent paint, new upholstery, hundreds of hrs detailed work, value $9000, will take $6000 cash. Jeffries Studio of Style, 5807 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood 28, Calif. HO. 6-2950.

PORSCHE Spyder RSK 1600 chassis #023. Hasn't been run since major o/haul. Ready to go. $8500. Roy R. Schechter, 1104 First Nat'l Bank Bldg., Miami, Fla. FR 1-2578 or PL 8-5112.

More to come...

PROFILE

MEEET DSG MEMEBER MARTY HUELSMANN

Marty Huelsmann, 66, of Ft. Mitchell, Ky., has been a Drei Staaten Gruppe member from the very beginning. He's retired from a career as an attorney and professor of law at the Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University. In the 1990s, Huelsmann served as Kentucky's Deputy Secretary of Justice Cabinet, and Chairman of the Kentucky Public Service Commission. He has 3 grown children. Happily married to Shirley for 41 years, he currently lives in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky.

DSG: Describe the Porsche(s) you own:

I own two 356s. I have an original (not restored) 1965 C, white sunroof coupe. The car has 118,000 miles and I am the 3rd owner. I have had this car since 1991. It is a great solid car, # is 221360.

How did you acquire the car?

I found it on the Internet for sale at a dealer in Cost Mesa, California. Flew out to Costa Mesa to check the car out, then had it shipped back to Cincinnati.

I also own a 1962 Twin Grill. It was built by D'leteren and its # is 89815. The car was restored by the late Marvin Simms. We did it my way. It has 12 volt, disk brakes, Euro heat, valance and a super 90 engine built by Dick Weiss. It really goes when you step on the gas and after 3500 RPM it goes into passing gear. It is silver with red leather interior. I got the car in 1995, and it has been running since 2000.

How did you acquire the cars?

I got the original coupe from the late Don Wasson, who was he second owner. Dick Weiss and I took it out of a garage where it was stored for over 5 years. It was black. I used soft scrub to take off the layers of dirt. I did this 8 times before I used rubbing compound to show its white paint.

What drew you to the 356?

I loved them when I was in high school but could not afford one. After the kids were in college I met Don Wasson and fell in love with his 356. I purchase my first 356 in 1989. I was a great red 1960 Roadster.

What is the most fun you have had in your 356?

I think it would be our first 356 East Coast Holiday but some are just as good. We caravanned down to Boone,

Tennessee. It rained most of the time but on the day to caravan to the Concours the sun came out and over 100 cars started their engines with lots of blue exhaust and hit the Blue Ridge Parkway to the concours site.

Also, Shirley (my lovely wife) and I will just drive them. We go to Northern Kentucky west (Rabbit Hash and back) and Northern Kentucky east (past Mark Schlachter's house and to St. Mary's Church and back.) We also went to Nova Scotia. We went around Cabot Trail and back. All of these drives are special.

Any interesting/funny stories you can share?

Don Wasson's story of the 1965 Coupe I purchased from him is better than any of mine. Don was an accountant and a lawyer who liked to have an occasional cocktail. One day Don was drinking with a bunch of people at the Mike Fink restaurant. They were seated on the patio. He was looking at the Cincinnati skyline when someone said, "Is that your Porsche that's floating in the Ohio River?" Don ran to the car and grabbed the rear, while at the same time yelled "get a wrecker quick".

After this Don would put the car in gear, pull the emergency brake on and lock the transmission in place every time he would park the car. So I think I have the only 356 that has been the Ohio River. I have run out of gas, had the clutch cable brakes and bailed water with a cup from the floor.

Any tech tips/secrets you've acquired over the years of 356 ownership?

I like the electric fuel pump. I find the batteries do not go bad as often. I believe that the fuel pump is better for the engine. I would highly encourage all to use it. It also has an advantage if your regular fuel pump goes out, you can turn it on and go. While going to Colorado, John Hanning had a fuel pump go out and all he did was hit the switch and away we went.

What's your favorite part of owning a 356?

We love to just drive them. It is fun to just hear the engine purr.

You also have a 550 Spyder replica?

In 1998 I purchased an exact duplicate of a 1955 Spyder. When Studebaker went through bankruptcy some of the engineers leased a 550 Spyder. They then made molds and a frame jig. They made 6 of these. Mine is stamped 550. For about 10 years it was in restoration by Marvin Simms. I wanted it to be an exact duplicate of James Dean's car. Today, except that it does not have a 4-cam engine, it is an exact duplicate.

GRUPPE NEWS WHAT'S GOING ON

March 1 Tech Session and Birthday Bash

Approximately 17 DSG members gathered March 1 at Metalkraft Coachwerkes, Cincinnati, for a tech session led by Dick Weiss, as well as to celebrate the 50th birthday of Mark Schlachter— Metalkraft proprietor and regional restoration master. Those who attended included: Peter Boettcher, Tom Oerther, Carl Iseman, Fred Uhlmann, Steve Leiding, Brian Schroeder, Steve Smith, Don Winder, Tom Griffiths, Fred Koszarek, Stan Yarrish, John Terry, Scott McCuskey and Bill Borden. Scott and Bill win the long-distance award for traveling 75+ miles from Madison, Indiana.

Bill Borden, who came as Scott's guest, has an interesting story behind his 1963 S90 B coupe. I will do my best to share it accurately here: General Motors bought the car new, presumably for testing/evaluation. Bill worked at GM in Detroit where a co-worker bought the car from GM. Bill eventually purchased the car from his co-worker in the late 60s/early 1970s. Unfortunately, one day in the early 70s Bill walked back to his garage in Detroit only to discover that the car had been stolen. Police tracked down the vehicle a few days later, but the S90 engine, as well as the wheels and tires, were gone. Bill suspects the motor went into a dune buggy—as that was the gearhead rage of the time—and that the motor is likely rotting away somewhere in the sands or woods of Michigan. Bill intends to get the car back on the road in the future.

Highlights of the Tech Session include:

Brake Shoes:
Pete Boettcher noted that for his Pre-A Speedster there are four different types of shoe designs, and similar variety on As, Bs, so make sure you check your core before you send it off for shoes and make sure you get the same style core back form the supplier. Several suppliers including Jeff Brown, Brad Ripley (NLA) and Stoddard offer the service for various fees. If your need new shoes, check with Dick Weiss or Pete Boettcher for their insights into these suppliers/prices.

Tech Tidbits that came up:

• Consider putting 2mm-wide slots in your shoes for dust slots. Cutting the slots at an angle can help direct the dust out.

• When inspecting new shoes, make sure the brake material is flush on both sides along the shoe.

• Check the shoes for at least 95% contact for even wear. If you have to adjust more than 5 or 6 star teeth's worth, then you need to check for an issue.

• Use your brakes hard—the way the German's intended—or else they will glaze. To remove the glaze use an emery cloth.

• Repack front wheel bearings every 30k miles with 50cc of high-temp grease per wheel.

• Recommended tire pressure for radials on a 356 is 24psi on front, 28psi in rear. Experiment on your own to see what's right for your car.

• Joe Leoni offers a headlight relay that can dramatically improve headlight brightness. Steve Leiding reported great results from the Leoni relay on his 6-volt H4s.

• Spark plug advice: use platinums and put high-temp copper never seize on threads when installing. You should also be using a little never seize on your lug nuts, especially in collar area.

• If your steering coupler is more than 10 years old, consider replacing it. Fred Uhlmann had one break apart on him.

• Bike stores offer very thin metric

wrenches designed for bikes, but that can be put to great use on 356s for accessing tight spaces where thicker wrenches would not otherwise fit.

Thanks to our guru Dick Weiss for leading the session, as well as Pete Boettcher and Fred Uhlmann, who shared a few tips, and Mark Schlachter, who walked the group through his current restoration project—a 1955 Speedster.

Note: Tech information for informational purposes only. Use at your own risk. We are responsible for nothing.

APRIL 19th TECH SESSION PLANNED

Learn what you need to do to get your 356 running strong for the upcoming "car show/driving season" with the DSG Spring Tune-up Tech Session at Tom Oerther's garage (10552 Margate Terrace, 45215) in Cincinnati, Ohio. Tom and Dick Weiss will lead the discussion, and all members are encouraged to pitch in their tips and insights. Drive your 356, as there will be plenty of parking. April 19th at 10 a.m., rain or shine. Hotdog lunch and refreshments will be provided. RSVP and/or for directions contact Steve Smith, 513-563-2365, stevejsmith356@yahoo.com

May 18 set for DSG Signature event

Peter Boettcher has worked diligently to plan a signature event for our club, details as follows:

The 2008 Bull Session and Family Picnic will be held Sunday, May 18, in Sharon Woods Park located in Sharonville, Ohio. This is the Sunday before Memorial Day weekend, which has been the traditional date for this event. Many will remember the Bull Sessions held at the Parlin estate and our goal is to recreate the enjoyment and camaraderie that those events brought to the group in attendance.

The theme for the day is to relax and enjoy the company and friendship of other enthusiasts, their families, and the many features offered at Sharon Woods.

You don't need to drive a 356 to attend this fun event. We have over 75 members in the Gruppe now and our goal is to get every one we can to come out to meet

each other, swap stories, pass along 356 related information and simply enjoy the day.

We simply want to see your smiling faces!

Lets all help to develop this into our signature annual event and surpass our attendance at past events.

Sharon Woods Park is just off I 275 on the north side of Cincinnati on SR 42.

You can check out the Sharon Woods Web site at: http://www.hamiltoncountyparks.org/parks/sharon.htm for additional details on the park and the many attractions at this location.

You will take exit # 46 for SR 42 South off of I 275 and travel less than 1 mile. The park entrance is on the left.

We have the Cardinal Crest Pavilion reserved (see map) which will be on the right following your entrance to the park. There is an electronic sign that will help direct you once you have passed the gate house.

Note that we have a large covered pavilion reserved that includes a private parking lot for our cars. Thanks to the large covered pavilion this will be a rain or shine event.

We are also calling this a Family Picnic. We will have our own sand volleyball court and horseshoe pits and will be located near the historic Sharon Village recreation which includes numerous buildings and artisans that can be viewed. There is a new visitor center and gift shop that is very impressive. The park also includes numerous playgrounds, a boat and paddle boat rental on the park's lake, an excellent golf course as well as many hiking trails and overlooks.

This will be an all day event that will start at 10:30 am. The Drei Staaten Gruppe will supply a barbeque lunch at the pavilion and you are welcome to bring a covered dish or dessert to share.

There is a $2 entry fee for the park for a daily pass which is an absolute bargain and the DSG will pay this fee for all 356`s that will be in attendance.

This is a great way to start the driving season and get to know other DSG members and their support teams.

Please RSVP to me if you will be able to join us for this fun day as I need a head count for food.

I would also encourage you to bring your friends and families to enjoy the beauty of Sharon Woods. Let me know if you have any questions or ideas that will help make this a more memorable day and event for our Gruppe.

—Peter C. Boettcher, (513) 777-7311, (513) 720-356C, pboettcher@cinci.rr.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

April

12: PCA Annual Wine Tasting & Charity Auction, Euro Classics, 3171 S. Dixie Drive, Dayton, OH. Annual event that was often held at Tom Stegman's car collection. This year will be held at Rick Grant's collection, which includes around 30 historic autos, including an RSK and 910. http://ohv.pca.org

19: Drei Staaten Gruppe Tech Session
10 a.m., Tom Oerther's Garage, Cincinnati, OH. "Spring Tune-Up" tech session, where you'll learn how to get your 356 ready for spring, including tune-up, valve adjustment, carb tuning, etc. Refreshments on hand. RSVP for directions to Steve Smith, 513-563-2365, stevejsmith356@yahoo.com.

23-27: Spring Carlisle Collector Car Swap Meet & Corral
Carlisle, PA. www.carsatcarlisle.com

26: Hershey Porsche Swap Meet
Hersheypark, Hershey, PA. World's largest Porsche-only swap. www.cpa-pca.org/swap

25-27: North Meets South
Large annual 356 event in San Luis Obispo, CA. www.356car.org

May

17: Annual BBQ at Cal Turner's Farm
Annual gathering hosted by the Tennessee Tubs at noted enthusiast Cal Turner's farm near Nashville, TN. www.tennesseetubs.com

18: Drei Staaten Gruppe Bull Session & Family Picnic
10:30 a.m., Sharon Woods Park. The DSG's signature event, and a casual, fun event for the entire family. RSVP to Peter Boettcher, pboettcher@cinci.rr.com.

June

8: Ault Park Concours D'Elegance
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Annual concours held at Ault Park, Cincinnati, OH. www.ohioconcours.com

13-14: Stoddard Imported Cars Swap Meet
38845 Mentor Ave. Willoughby, OH, 440-951-1040, www.stoddard.com.

14-15: 24 Heures Du Mans

18-22: 356 Registry 2008 West Coast Holiday
Lake Tahoe, California/Nevada. One of the major 356 events the national 356 Registry holds annually. www.356registry.org/events/wch2008

28-July 3: PCA National Parade
Charlotte, NC. www.paradecharlotte.org

29: Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-Ohio
Annual vintage race held at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, Lexington, OH. Includes car show, various club corrals. Typically collector cars are allowed on the track for a few parade laps. www.midohio.com

July

12: 26th Annual Arthritis Foundation Classic Auto Show & Cruise-In
Metro Place North, Dublin, OH. Annual concours featuring wide range of cars. This year will honor Porsche. www.arthritisautoshow.com.

19: America Le Mans Series Race at Mid-Ohio
3:30 p.m., Lexington, OH. www.midohio.com

26: Porsches 2 Oxford
10 a.m.-5 p.m. approx. Annual, casual Porsche show on the brick-lined streets of downtown Oxford, OH. Last year more than 250 cars attended, with many Drei Staaten Gruppe members in attendance. www.porsches2oxford.com.

September

4-7: 356 Registry 2008 East Coast Holiday
Lancaster, PA. One of the major 356 events the national 356 Registry holds annually. www.356registry.org/ech2008

14: Glenmoor Gathering of Significant Automobiles
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Annual concours held at Glenmoor Country Club, Canton, Ohio, organized by 356er Myron Vernis. This year the show will be featuring Porsche and according to show description, "Numerous examples will be on display including rare factory pre-production prototypes and a training chassis. Internationally known Porsche authority Karl Ludvigsen will be on hand. www.glenmoorgathering.com.

28: Volkswagen/Porsche Reunion Car Show and Swap Meet
GE Park, Springdale (Cincinnati), OH. More than 200 Porsches and Volkswagen come together to celebrate Dr. Porsche's best designs. www.cincyvwclub.com

Dates/times subject to change.
Please confirm on Web site prior to event.
Please send notices of any events we've missed, or changes/errors, to stevejsmith356@yahoo.com

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