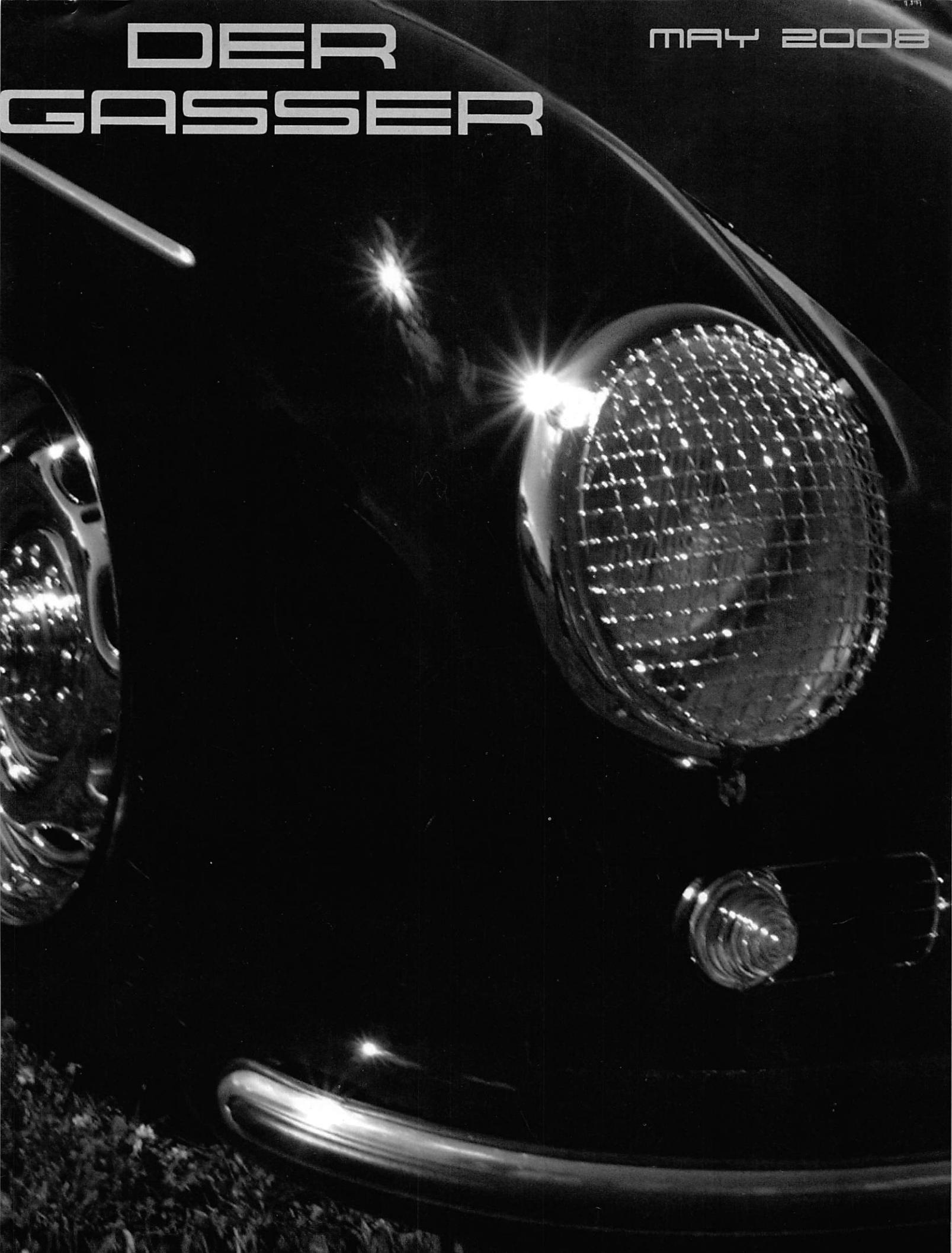


DER GASSER

MAY 2008



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On the Cover



Porsche 356 Speedster. For more 356 information please see the article on page 15.

photo: Ken Souser

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DER GASSE

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MAY 2008

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For the latest information, please visit the Riesentöter Region web page at: www.rtr-pca.org.

From the Editor's Desk

I've always had an eye for exotic sports cars, such as a Porsche 930 Turbo, and just about any Ferrari, Lamborghini, or Pantera. So when Jim and I recently attended a concours in upstate New York, he thought I would walk right past a Porsche 356. Instead, I found myself walking around this magnificent specimen. Why? It was beautiful in it's simplicity.

This September, there promises to be quite a gathering of Porsche 356s at the East Coast Holiday Concours in Bethel, PA. For more info, go to www.EastCoastHoliday.com. Several RTRs who plan on attending the event have approached me and suggested we run a regular, monthly column devoted to the 356. As you've heard me say before, Der Gasser is your newsletter. So please email me ASAP to let me know where you stand on this issue. I don't want to ignore members who feel their interests are not being covered in the newsletter. Also, at the same time, I prefer not to run articles on a particular Porsche model that interests only a small subset of the RTR membership.

See you 'round the garage,

Maureen Sangiorgio

State of the Region- A Special Message

By Brian Minkin, RTR President



This Month's State of the Region is a very important request to the entire club membership. RTR member Bob Wilderman (a ten year member) was diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) in August 2007. Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. ALS victims will eventually become paralyzed and the disease will ultimately lead to their death. Bob is in the early stages of the disease and his personal goal is to raise as much money as he possibly can for the Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the ALS Association while he is able to. My desire is for RTR to help Bob reach his goals.

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the ALS Association raises over \$500,000 each year for ALS research and also provides temporary respite care, funding assistance for home health aides, durable medical equipment loans, an assistive technology program to help in communications, wheel chair accessible van transportation service, funding assistance to make homes wheel chair accessible, cutting-edge educational programs, including a "Newly Diagnosed" seminar, free recreational outings and a Caregiver's Day. The chapter also provides two ALS clinics for ALS patients.

On June Sunday 29th RTR is holding the RTR Plans and Porsches Charity AutoX at the Reading Airport. The airport has donated the site so the entire event will raise funds to help Bob Wilderman fulfill his goals. The event will be limited to 50 drivers but I know RTR can raise much more money to help Bob and the ALS Association. If you are not one of the lucky drivers that get to compete in the Autocross please come out and watch the competition and make a tax deductible donation to the ALS Association, Greater Philadelphia Chapter. In addition to the Autocross competition there will be aircraft and special cars on display for you to check out as well as a Porsche parking corral sure to be full of lots of beautiful cars. Food will be available as well.

If you can not join us for the event I urge you to send your tax deductible check payable to the ALS Association, Greater Philadelphia Chapter to our Treasurer Steve Mankowski, 162 Yorkshire Way Hatboro, PA 19040. I am also hoping the membership will reach out to their employers and seek donations from them as well. Corporate Sponsors can make this effort a huge success.

RTR has done a great job with the Make A Wish program for many years now. Let's make this a charitable success as well. I would like to see it become an annual event.

Enjoy your P-car and help Bob Turbo-Charge his dream. Get Involved! Donate to ALS!

Letters to the Editor

Great job on the March publication – it's a delight to read it while sitting on the beach in 84 degree weather!! Looking forward to the upcoming P-car season. Again, keep up the great work.

-- Dale Smith

I am very happy to see the magazine arrive at the beginning of the month. Planning upcoming events for the month is easier if I have enough notice. Also, I noticed a few new advertisements. It's great for the club to have additional revenue. You are doing a great job at this difficult and thankless undertaking.

-- Jackie Gilberg

Got the April issue in the mail today and I want to extend my congrats on a great issue. The new "Der Gasser" is excellent.

-- Brian Minkin

Address letters to the editor to Got2BFit@aol.com with *Der Gasser* in the subject line. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity. Please include name and phone number.



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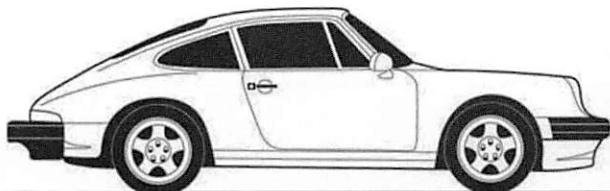
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Celebrating Sixty Fast Years

By Loren Hulber

In 2008, we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the first Porsche sports car—the 356. The Porsche firm, having located to Gmund, Austria during WWII, was turning out a variety of automotive, farm, and industrial motors and tools for war-ravaged Europe. Ferry Porsche, son of the famous Dr. Ing. Ferdinand Porsche, founder of Porsche Motors, designed and fabricated the first Project #356 car, Model 356.001. The car utilized a tubular chassis, an 1100cc engine, and was very light and quick for the time. Though the car changed from mid-engine to rear, and the tubular chassis gave way to a unitized pan and body construction, the overall design and instantly recognizable shape of the car remained the same; a timeless classic and the basis for all Porsches to follow.

The original 356.001 car is in the Porsche Museum and tours the world for special car shows and historic events. Over 50 Gmund cars were built and sold primarily in Austria and Germany. Many still survive today in collections around the world. In 1950, the Porsche factory relocated to Zuffenhausen. Also in 1950, in a deal with Max Hoffman of New York, Porsche introduced the 356 to the USA. In 1954, Hoffman urged Porsche to make a less-expensive, stripped-down model of its open car. The Speedster was an instant success in amateur racing and in the market with over 4,100 sold by 1959. From the early days, Porsche was a winner

in racing events with a remarkable total wins of over 28,000.

Other variations and continued improvements led to the 356B in 1959 and the 356C in 1963. In 1964, production of the 356 reached a high of over 10,000 in a single year, more than the first 10 years of the Porsche 356. The last of 78,000 Porsche 356s were built in April 1965, nearly half of which are still on the road today and revered more than ever.

Driving my 356B Coupe always brings a smile to my face and is a profound reminder of the 60-year heritage of Porsche sports cars. Compared to my 2008 911 Turbo Cabriolet and other Porsches I have owned, one can instantly see the evolution and DNA of this timeless design. Driving my 356 is a thrill, especially on a winding road or road course.

To learn more about the Porsche Type 356, join the 356 Registry at www.356registry.org and plan to attend the 356 Registry 2008 East Coast Holiday Concours at historic Grimes Airfield in Bethel, PA on September 6, 2008. Riesentoter Region is planning a drive to the ECH Concours for a day of fun celebrating Sixty Fast Years and viewing more than 250 very special 356 cars. More info is available at www.EastCoastHoliday.com. Who knows? Like me, you may one day find yourself inspired to owning a Type 356 in addition to your late model Porsche.



PorscOfFile's enjoying their 356 Speedster at the '05 Porsche Parade, Hershey, PA

Photo; Ken Souser

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– Tim Cahill

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Ashley's "Race for the Cure" Charity Car Show for Breast Cancer

By David Redmond

I always enjoy hopping into my 911 (AKA "The Silver Bullet") and socializing with other Porsche owners, so when I saw the following invitation on the RTR Web Forum, I couldn't resist . . .

"Hi, My name is Ashley Pastino and I am currently a senior at Upper Merion High School. My high school requires each senior to do a research project on anything and I decided to run a charity car show. My family is huge into cars; my dad and I both actually own Mustangs, a 2001 and 2006. I am having the car show on April 13th at the Upper Merion High School. All profits will go towards Breast Cancer research. Registration is 9-10 am, each car entered is \$15, which includes a goodie bag and a car show t-shirt. The High School's address is 440 Crossfield Rd, King of Prussia, PA 19406. There will be trophies, raffles, music, food, and much more excitement. I am interested if your car club could attend because I am really trying to raise as much money as I can for Breast Cancer research."

As everyone knows, Porsche owners don't need an excuse to shine up and drive their cars, but when we get one, especially if it helps support a good

cause, even better! With the weather cooperating there was a nice turnout of approximately 75 cars in total, with about 15 Porsche Club members in 10 cars, representing many different Porsche models. Some of the Riesentoter members in attendance were Aaron Moore in his red 911 RS, Chris Vuotto in his black Cayman S, Mr. and Mrs. Drew Lyons in their silver Boxster, Mark Jedlinski in a beautiful burgundy 928-S, Brian and Terry Minkin brought their 993 and Boxster, and Steve and Ali McMorn, just to name a few.

All in all, it was a great day for a great cause, and fun was had by all!



Photo: David Redmond

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

DRIVERS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

2008

Event Name	Date	RTR Member Registration	Non-RTR Registration	Registration Closing Date
Pocono North (Advanced Day)	May 16	April 1	April 8	May 2
Pocono North	May 17-18	April 1	April 8	May 2
Jefferson Circuit Summit Point	June 14-16	May 1	May 8	May 31
Watkins Glen	August 1-3	June 1	June 8	July 18
Summit Point	August 21-22	July 1	July 8	August 7
Pocono	September 19-21	August 5	August 12	September 5
Thunderbolt (Advanced Day)	September 29	August 5	August 12	September 15
Thunderbolt	October 17-19	September 1	September 8	October 3

Please note: On line registration begins at 12:01 AM

DE Tech Inspection Schedule

DATE	TRACK	INSPECTING FACILITY
May 3	Pocono	Knopf Automotive, Allentown
May 31	Jefferson	Meenan's, Lansdale
July 19	Watkins Glen	Dougherty's, West Chester

RTR Monthly Meeting Schedule

Meetings start with a social hour at 7pm

May 28 – Knopf Automotive, Allentown. Guest Speaker: Professional Race Car Driver Craig Stanton. (See below)
June 25 – Possum Hollow Motorsports, Phoenixville

Craig Stanton to Speak at Knopf

Professional race car driver Craig Stanton is slated to speak at Knopf Automotive at the regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 28th. Social hour starts at 7pm, with the meeting at 8pm and guest speaker immediately following. Driving a Porsche 911 GT3 Cup car, Craig's racing highlights include championships in the Grand American Rolex Series GT class, and the Grand-Am Cup GS class. He is also a six-time Grand-Am Cup winner, including wins at Homestead-Miami, American Le Mans Series, Petit LeMans, and Road America.

This year, Craig is driving a Porsche 997 Cup car in the Grand American Koni Challenge Series. He started the 2008 racing season with a win at Daytona and is now the current points leader. He then went on to drive a Porsche 997 RSR at Sebring with VICI Racing Team. Craig plans on signing with TRG Racing, so you can check him out at various east-coast tracks such as Lime Rock and Watkins Glen.

"I have been racing Porsches since 1995," recalls Craig. "I've driven for over 35 Porsche teams, and I've been very fortunate to be on some of the best teams in the world. The racing heritage and the history behind the car really impresses me. They are built with endurance racing in mind. When you think of endurance racing, you always think of Porsche first. The dynamics are different with a Porsche race car than with any other race car I've ever driven. The engine and transmission are in the back, making them squirrelly to drive. I guess that's why they appeal to me so much. I love the challenge." (To find out more about Craig, go to www.craigstanton.com.)

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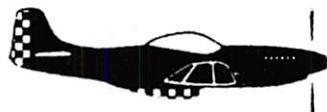
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