

WINDING ROADS 2.0

Porsche Club of America | Zone 8 | California Inland Region



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Editor's Note

Well, another year had passed and the Procrastinator-in-Chief managed to delay the creation of your Cal Inland Winding Roads even more-so than 2022's Year-in-Review. It didn't help that we threw in the stress of a job search, home purchase, move, and home sale into the heart of this year's newsletter writing plans. We've finally settled in and found time to re-focus on our last contribution to the Cal Inland community. It was a bittersweet end to six years of amazing camaraderie in the Cal Inland Region. Our Porsche journey began when we accidentally parked at Rusnak Porsche instead of Rusnak Jaguar in Pasadena, resulting in a Porsche Cayenne Diesel replacement to our 2012 Volkswagen Touareg. Through our oft-referenced "how many Porsches do you own" question from the Witterieds and the life changing advice "you don't buy a Porsche because you need one, you buy a Porsche because you want one" from Lori DeCristo, we have greatly enjoyed our ride with all of you in the Region. We hope

to cross paths with all of you at various Zone 8 events in the future. If you ever find yourselves looking for a quick get-away from the hustle of Los Angeles and want to enjoy world-class award winning wineries, breweries, and distilleries in Paso Robles, do not hesitate to look us up. - Dale and Jenn Riedel

President's Corner - Fast Two Years

It's been a very busy two years! Reflecting back on my term as California Inland Region's President, three things stand out: the fun events, the exciting driving and most of all the friendly people of our Region. Our events allowed us to share our common passion for Porsches in a way that enriched our social lives. I feel very fortunate to be part of such a unique group of Porsche owners – it's our members that make Cal Inland a stand-out Region in Zone 8.

The Events

As the pandemic wound down and our members were able to gather and socialize more, Cal Inland Region's staff put an emphasis on group drive-and-dine events in 2022 and 2023. We found that combining our people and our Porsches with the spectacular roads and fine dining of Southern California was a winning recipe for fun and friendship. I personally enjoyed getting to know more of our members through these events and sharing our Porsche ownership experiences.

Pictures say more than mere words, so here are a few shots from our group drive events that reflect how much fun was had. To everyone who volunteered to put these events on, THANK YOU!



Caliente Tour '22



Cool Coast Tour '22



Cool Coast Tour '23



Malibu Tour '23

The Driving

Luxury amenities are not what make a Porsche so special to drive. They're special because Porsche pours their endurance racing engineering and heritage into their street cars. It can be argued that the purest way to enjoy a Porsche is to drive it with, uh... *enthusiasm*. We can certainly do that on California's great canyon roads, but only to a legally-limited extent. The real place to savor Porsche's engineering is *off* the public roads. In the past two years, our members certainly did more of that.



Cool Coast Tour '22



Oktoberfest '23



Malibu Tour '23



Caliente Tour Cattle Crossing '23

PCA Sim Racing – Three of our members are active in PCA's sim racing series, using high-fidelity racing simulations to compete with other PCA members while conditioning their hand/eye coordination in ways that improve both virtual and real driving skills.



Autocross – Four of our members have long been competitors in this social and exciting form of grassroots motorsport. During the past two years, six additional members added their names to the roster of Cal Inland’s autocross tribe. The more, the merrier!



Autocross



HPDE at Streets of Willow

High Performance Driver’s Education (Track Days) – Nearly a dozen of our members take to the race track several times a year to explore how their Porsches perform at the limit. If you want to know what your Porsche is truly capable of, take it to the track!

These PCA-hosted activities are a great way to learn what your Porsche can do while simultaneously upping your game as a driver. I hope to see even more of you explore Autocross, Track Days and Sim Racing in 2024!

The People

While the PCA wouldn’t exist without Porsche vehicles, it truly is the people who make the Cal Inland Region so special - and such a rewarding group to be a part of. I am grateful for the friendship of our event coordinators, participants and competitors.

Our Region continued to be blessed with motivated people in our Board and Activity Chair positions. They came through for us in more ways than I have time to describe here.

***Caliente Tour '22******Malibu Tour '23******Oktoberfest '22***

It is a privilege to share the Porsche hobby with all of you, and it was an honor to serve you as the Cal Inland Region President. Thank you for begin who you are - friendly and giving people who are genuine enthusiasts of this exciting hobby. I look forward to enjoying events with you all in 2024!

- 2022/2023 Region President Ian Anderson

2023 Year-in-Review

Cars & Coffee - Your Porsche Santa Clarita (First Saturday Monthly)

As has been the tradition for California Inland Region since the opening of our very own Porsche Santa Clarita in our geographic boundaries, the dealership continued to hold awesomely curated cars-and-coffee events every month of the year. Occurring on the first Saturday, spectators from all walks of life and all levels of car enthusiasm perused the Wunderground museum, enjoyed the food variations from The Horseless Carriage, and took in the spectacular array of exotic vehicles with different themes every month. You could find our Cal Inland welcome booth and Membership Chair on the main floor for the

duration of each event. Continue to stop by at any time during the cars-and-coffee to socialize with current and past Board members as well as the people who make Cal Inland special - YOU!!!!



Magnus Walker Appearance



PSC Breakfast and Tech Session (February 18th)

February brought the Region to Porsche Santa Clarita for a breakfast in the Wunderground along with an introduction to PSC Service Manager Armen Mansouri. Armen described the full range of Porsche service capabilities in their state-of-the-art service bay which is clean enough to eat your lunch off of (better than eating in your car!). Seriously though, Armen explained the benefits of having your Porsche, whether highly technical or a Porsche-classic, serviced at the dealership. The group then toured the service bay and observed some amazing vehicles from a wide-range of Porsche genres and generations being rejuvenated. More information about PSC service options can be found [here](#).



R2 Motorsports Soft Opening and Burrito Breakfast (March 18th)

March brought the Region to a “soft” opening of R2 Motorsports in Castaic. Proprietor Rafi Gogus and his team moved R2 Motorsports from Santa Clarita to Castaic in order to provide high quality service for a wide spectrum of sports cars in a significantly upgraded facility. Although the drive to R2 Motorsports may be a bit longer now for most Region members, the increased parking and service bay capability is worth the effort. Further, for our northern Region members, the drive to R2 Motorsports across the San Gabriel Mountains via Lake Hughes Road makes for a spirited drive, even when the destination may include having to work on your four-wheeled love. Fine more information about R2 Motorsports [here](#).



CAI Concours (April 1st)

April brought the Region's second Concours held in the Wunderground at Porsche Santa Clarita. Like 2022, this year's Concours did not disappoint. With all makes and models in the competition staged in the service parking under the dealership, spectators could observe the display of exceptionally clean Porsches from all generations and models. All this while the dealership held its monthly cars-and-coffee upstairs and outside! Editor's note - we ran into California Central Coast Region (CCCR) member Alfred, who was a judge at the CAI 2023 Concours. As you may recall, we provided judges with a "thank you" gift of a bottle of wine from the Antelope Valley Winery. Alfred brought the bottle to one of our drive and drink events to a local Paso Robles Winery to share. Unfortunately, the winery would not let him open the bottle due to alcohol licensing limitations. We look forward to sharing that bottle soon.



New Member Social (April 29th)

After a three-year hiatus (thanks COVID), the Region brought back the annual New Members' Social event in April. Membership Chair Dave Douglas organized an amazing and spirited drive originating in Santa Clarita and ending at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse in Palmdale. The new members drive included well over 30 vehicles, resulting in four driving groups to ensure safety and ease of "staying together" in the trickier parts of town. BJ's did not disappoint with an amazing curated meal including various options off the menu. A great time was had by all!



David Douglas giving Pre-Drive Safety Briefing



California Inland's First New Members' Social since 2019!

Cowboy Tavern Tour Test Run (June 17th)

Historically, the Region had been holding a monthly breakfast in both Santa Clarita and in Lancaster on separate weekends. COVID put a hamper on that plan and with the decision to commit to the monthly cars-and-coffee at Porsche Santa Clarita, the Board decided to start holding one meal in Santa Clarita and one in Palmdale or Lancaster on alternating months. Our significant increase in both memberships and active participants rendered our regular Lancaster venue unable to meet our demand. For the June meal, we decided to try the Cowboy Tavern in Agua Dulce since they had a separate room we could reserve. Capped at 35 meals, we were pleasantly surprised that we filled up the venue on our first event! Our drive originated at the dealership and enjoyed the curvy roads of Bouquet Canyon, Elizabeth Lake Road, Soledad Canyon, and Agua Dulce Canyon before arriving at the Tavern. Formerly known as the Sweetwater Cafe, this tour and meal served as the Cowboy Tavern's first large event. Members ordered off the menu and the service was EXCELLENT! As you'll note below (and by now, are clearly aware given the Region's events in 2024), the Cowboy Tavern became a regular destination for the Region!



The First of Many Cowboy Tavern Tours

Cool Coast Tour (July 22nd)

July's drive found the Region escaping the dog days of summer by enjoying the cooler temperatures of Ventura. This longer tour originated at Porsche Santa Clarita and headed west on the 126 through Filmore, south on the 23 through some crazy mountain curves, back north on various side roads through Santa Paula, north on the 150 to Ojai, then back down the 33 to Ventura Harbor. We stopped for a group photo at the Harbor before Region members split off into smaller groups for lunch and shopping. In previous years, the annual Cool Coast Tour would terminate at the Ventura Pier for lunch at one of the seafood restaurants. Due to a scheduling snafu with the Ventura Fair in 2021, the tour switched to the Harbor in 2022 and never looked back. Information about the Ventura Harbor is available [here](#).



Malibu Run (August 26th)

As mentioned above in CAI President Ian Anderson's introduction, he took the reins to again lead our members to Malibu for a luncheon at Duke's Malibu. Named after famed U.S. Olympic Gold Medalist Duke Paoa Kahanamoku, Duke's Malibu honors the life of this American Legend and "pays tribute to the early days of surfing in Malibu" by delivering award-winning land and sea fare options for all. Getting out of our Cal Inland comfort zone, the spirited drive originated at Porsche Westlake and Region members carved the amazing SoCal canyon roads including the 23, Topanga Canyon, and the Pacific Coast Highway. Information about Duke's Malibu is available [here](#). Gratuitous Malibu Beach Photo below.



Sunset Tour (September 9th)

Rolling into the fall, Dave Douglas again took the lead on his second annual evening tour and drive. Having filled up the August calendar, we traded the name “Hot August Night” tour with the “September Sunset Tour” and revved up the engines for an evening drive and dinner. Originating in Castaic, this tour headed north on Lake Hughes Road, cut east along Lake Elizabeth Road, south on San Francisquito Canyon, East on Spunky Canyon, and south on Bouquet canyon back into Santa Clarita. The tour ended at the Wolf Creek Restaurant and Brewery on the northwest side of town. Our group of about 30-35 Region members enjoyed a twilight dinner on the patio as the temperatures cooled off. This drive also served as a stark reminder to emphasize safety and legal driving when one of our drivers was pulled over by California’s finest despite having committed no infraction, merely because the officer wanted to “remind” our group to obey traffic laws. We pride ourselves on spirited yet safe driving at every Driver’s meeting and thankfully no citations were issued (again, because there was no infraction). After a delayed arrival, laughs were shared by all. Find information about Wolf Creek Restaurant and Brewery [here](#).



Oktoberfest (October 28th)

Revisiting our extremely successful previous year’s Oktoberfest, we again set out to experience the German holiday (more like a way of life) celebrating beer, brats, singing, dancing, and friends known as Oktoberfest. Since COVID killed off the amazing “Timeline” held annually by the Riverside Region in Lake Arrowhead, the Cal Inland Region refocused our October event on the annual Lake Arrowhead Oktoberfest. This year saw the Region members enjoy a lengthy drive from Palmdale, through Wrightwood and ending at Lake Arrowhead. Upon arrival, all Region members were free to eat lunch, shop, and/or enter the Oktoberfest grounds. Some group members participated in the reserved tables available through the festival’s website for some “up close” interactions with the California Krauts. Some members chose the responsible route and reserved hotel rooms near the village, enabling a full-spectrum enjoyment of the festivities! Information about Lake Arrowhead can be found [here](#) and information on the annual Oktoberfest can be found [here](#).

Cowboy Tavern (November 19th)

Our final tour of 2023 found us trying out the Cowboy Tavern for another round as we evaluated whether this would become a recurring venue for our drives. As in June, the drive was spirited and the event was

well-received. Region members ordered off the full menu and the Cowboy Tavern staff delivered an amazing experience. As Porsche drivers can appreciate, parking is a premium at driving tours as it relates to both ease of access and availability of spots. The Cowboy Tavern's private parking lot easily handled our number of participants and the entrance was easily traversed, with or without front axle lift!

Holiday Party (December 9th)

Cal Inland Region's 2023 culminated again in our annual holiday party hosted by Porsche Santa Clarita. As expected, this capstone event did not disappoint! Working with Porsche Santa Clarita and comparing our event to others in the Region made me realize, and truly appreciate, the value of our relationship with PSC. They hired staff, provided food and a bartender, decorated the venue, and stayed late into the evening while we enjoyed food, beverages, camaraderie and an amazing array of door prizes among fellow Porsche enthusiasts. Our Region does not charge for merely participating in events and our sole "income" is a quarterly distribution from Porsche Club of America as a rebate from annual dues. Over the past three years, our Region has committed to spending a significant portion of its annual income on door prizes for our Holiday party. If you've attended one recently, you can agree. Last year, we gave away door prizes valued over \$3K! Hopefully, you were one of the many lucky ones to win something you had your eyes on at the gift table. After the door prizes, President Ian Anderson provided an awesome recap of the above events and highlighted that which keeps us coming back - "It's not just the cars, it's the people."



Newsletter Editor Parting Thoughts

I would be remiss if I didn't discuss the newsletter itself. On a whim in the middle of 2021, I volunteered to take a stab at writing the newsletter. I honestly failed to appreciate the amount of time and the relative rigidity (for lack of a better word) as it relates to Porsche Club of America newsletters. Using a newsletter template we've developed for our personal Holiday newsletter, I figured it would be easy to assemble a quarterly summary of our activities. I was proud of my newsletters in the last two quarters of 2021. In 2022, time got away from me and our quarterly newsletter became an annual "Year-in-Review." I was similarly proud of that single year long summary of our Region's activities. That year, I also volunteered to be a judge for PCA's annual Newsletter of the Year competition. To say it was eye-opening is an understatement. Newsletters were graded on a strict criteria based on content, including: Table of Contents; Editor's Note; President's Message; Guest Articles; Photography; Technical Corner; and Advertisements. I quickly realized the deficiencies in my content. Somehow, our new Region in the Central Coast puts out both a printed and a digital newsletter EVERY MONTH. I honestly can't imagine how one person has time, energy and motivation to put that together. In any event, I hope my short stint as the California Inland's Winding Roads (annual) Newsletter bridged the gap between our past and your future.

