

Featured Member

New Years Resolution

Something German

Chronicles of Sir Stuttgart



The Monthly Newsletter of the PCA Palmetto Region

Palmetto Pipes

www.pcapalmetto.org

Holiday Parties

Myrtle Beach Area - December 8th

Charleston Area - December 14th

This year's Holiday/Christmas party is Friday, December 14, 2012. Club member Joe Boykin and Lisa Minshew will graciously be hosting this year's festivities at 7pm, at their "Party Barn" on John's Island. Please check the website for directions/address. We will also do our normal Chinese Gift Exchange. You can bring one gift per person or one per couple and it does not have to be Porsche oriented but preferred. If you have not yet registered please do so now so we make sure we have adequate food and seating.



The Myrtle Beach Group Holiday/Christmas party is Saturday, December 8, 2012 at the home of club member's Rocky and Robin Holliday. This event is limited to 50 people. The event will take place at Rocky and Robin's home on Pawley's Island from 5pm – 9pm. We will also do the White Elephant Gift Exchange. You can bring one gift per person or one per couple.

Please check the website/forum for further details on the parties.



STUFFED ANIMALS FOR CHRISTMAS for Storm Sandy's Children

By Jackie

As you all know the northeast was hit very hard by Hurricane Sandy. Many of the people in the affected area have lost everything. With the Christmas holiday almost upon us, I took it upon myself to organize a Stuffed Animal Drive. I am collecting NEW stuffed animals up till 12/14/12. The animals will be shipped out on 12/17/12 to the Tom's River, NJ area. This area was hit particularly hard by the storm. Many in the area will be without power for another 4-6 months. The animals will be handed out to the children in that area.

GERMAN RECIPE

“Zimtsterne - German Cinnamon Star Cookies”

(source: About.com German Food, Jennifer McGavin)



“Zimtsterne” cookies are a very traditional part of the Christmas and Advent offerings to guests in Germany. Cinnamon and almonds taste great together. Many people buy them packaged, but they are easy to make and taste better than the store-bought.

“Zimtsterne” are almost always a 6-pointed star shape. Cinnamon was a very expensive and rare spice in Europe in the 1600s and almonds, which had to be imported, were a food for royalty. This explains why almonds and cinnamon are especially associated with once-a-year festivals such as Christmas.

Prep Time: 40 minutes **Cook Time:** 15 minutes **Total**

Time: 55 minutes

Makes 3 ½ dozen, 2” cinnamon star cookies

INGREDIENTS:

4 egg whites

1 oz. Kirschwasser (optional)

390 grams powdered sugar, about 3 ½ cups

2 tsp. ground cinnamon

400 grams raw almond meal, about 4 cups

PREPARATION:

Beat the egg whites until soft peaks form. Add powdered sugar, ½ cup at a time, beating for 1 minute between each addition. Continue beating for 5 minutes after the last addition. The mixture should be very stiff, like the icing used to hold the gingerbread house together.

Remove ½ cup of meringue and set aside for icing.

Fold in the raw almond meal and the cinnamon. Add the Kirschwasser, if you are using it, and incorporate.

Chill the dough for about 1 hour

Using ample powdered sugar on your baking board or clean countertop, pat the dough into a square and roll out to ½ inch thick (or 1 centimeter). Cut out stars with a cookie cutter. Powder the cookie cutter between each cut. Place stars on a non-stick cookie sheet or a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper.

Cutting out the stars is a sticky process. Wash off the cookie cutter as often as necessary to achieve sharp star points.

Brush or spread the icing on each star, working it out to all the points.

Let the stars dry overnight (about 24 hours, if you can), the oven is a good place if you don't forget they are there and preheat for something else.

The next day, heat the oven to 325F. Bake each tray for 10-15 minutes. This is to dry out the cookies a little more and bake the egg whites. Try to remove the cookies before the icing turns brown, although a little brown tint can look nice.

Store these cookies in a dry place at room temperature.

NOTES: You can make almond meal yourself in a blender or buy it in the baking aisle of many grocery stores or natural food stores. The price for 1 pound ranges between US\$4.00 - \$16.00.



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Featured Member- Kevin Zemnickas

Hello, my name is Kevin Zemnickas, I am originally from Medina Ohio. I have a sister that is married, a niece and nephew, and my parents also live here in Mt. Pleasant. Although I am originally from Ohio, I am a devote Michigan Wolverine fan. I moved to



Charleston in 1996 to be the Assistant Manager/Head Golf Professional at The Links at Stono Ferry. I earned my Class "A" PGA Membership status in 1998. In the last summer of 1999 I accepted the position of Head Golf Professional at Dunes West Golf Club. Here we are 13 years later and I feel lucky to work at such a great club. I have gone through several cars in my life. My first was a 1976 Datsun 280Z. I customized the car with a rear wing, rear diffuser, side skirts, and front air damn. It was a very personalized car and everyone knew it was me when they saw it. I also went through a 1980 Mazda RX7, 1987 Ford Mustang, 1988 Mazda RX7 Convertible, and still own a 1987 Jeep Wrangler. My first Porsche was a 1992 968 Coupe and I added a 1993 Porsche 968 Cabriolet to the garage. All of my cars have been manuals. I will never forget the first time I learned to drive a stick. Many people in the club know that my father has a 93' Porsche 968 coupe. What most people don't know is that we used to have matching Mazda RX7's back in the day. I find our matching Porsche 968's to be pretty special. I am not sure exactly when I became a Porschephile, but it was a very long time ago. When the 997 was introduced with the commercial of the kid riding the bike to the Porsche dealership, sitting in the car, and saying he will be back in a few years, I saw myself. Maybe the love/obsession started when I lived in Holland as a child. I do know that I told everyone that I would own one someday. My walls growing up and at college were adorned with Porsche posters. I first fell in love with the Porsche 928 and later my dream car became the Porsche 930 Slant nose Cabriolet. As soon as I bought my first Porsche I joined the Palmetto PCA. I feel we are all very lucky to have such a great group of people who share the common love of our cars. I have been lucky enough to attend 2 Porsche Parades where my 92' Coupe finished 2nd in Class for Preparation at both sites. My greatest Porsche weekend to date was Rennsport Reunion III in Daytona. Amazing does not even cover that Porsche experience. If it comes back to Daytona, you must attend. I have also traveled to the Rolex 24 twice and plan on taking the trek again in 2013. While my 92' Coupe will remain 100% original, I am currently working on changes to my 968 Cab with the help of Josh Stolarz to improve its look, performance, and make it more personal. I am learning new things about my cars all the time. It has been one heck of a journey for me from dream to Porsche ownership. I look forward to many more exciting experiences and years with the Palmetto Region.



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New Year's Resolutions – Jennifer Mills

Joe and I participated in our first Driver's Education Event in June 2009. At the end of 2011, with the exception of a one-day SCCA event at Carolina Motorsports Park (CMP), all of the events we had participated in were at Roebing Road. Late last year, we talked about branching out to see if the skills we had learned would translate to other tracks. Thus we developed a New Year's Resolution to complete a DE Event at both CMP and Virginia International Raceway (VIR) during 2012. Not quite as admirable as losing weight, volunteering more, or reaching certain career goals, but certainly more fun.

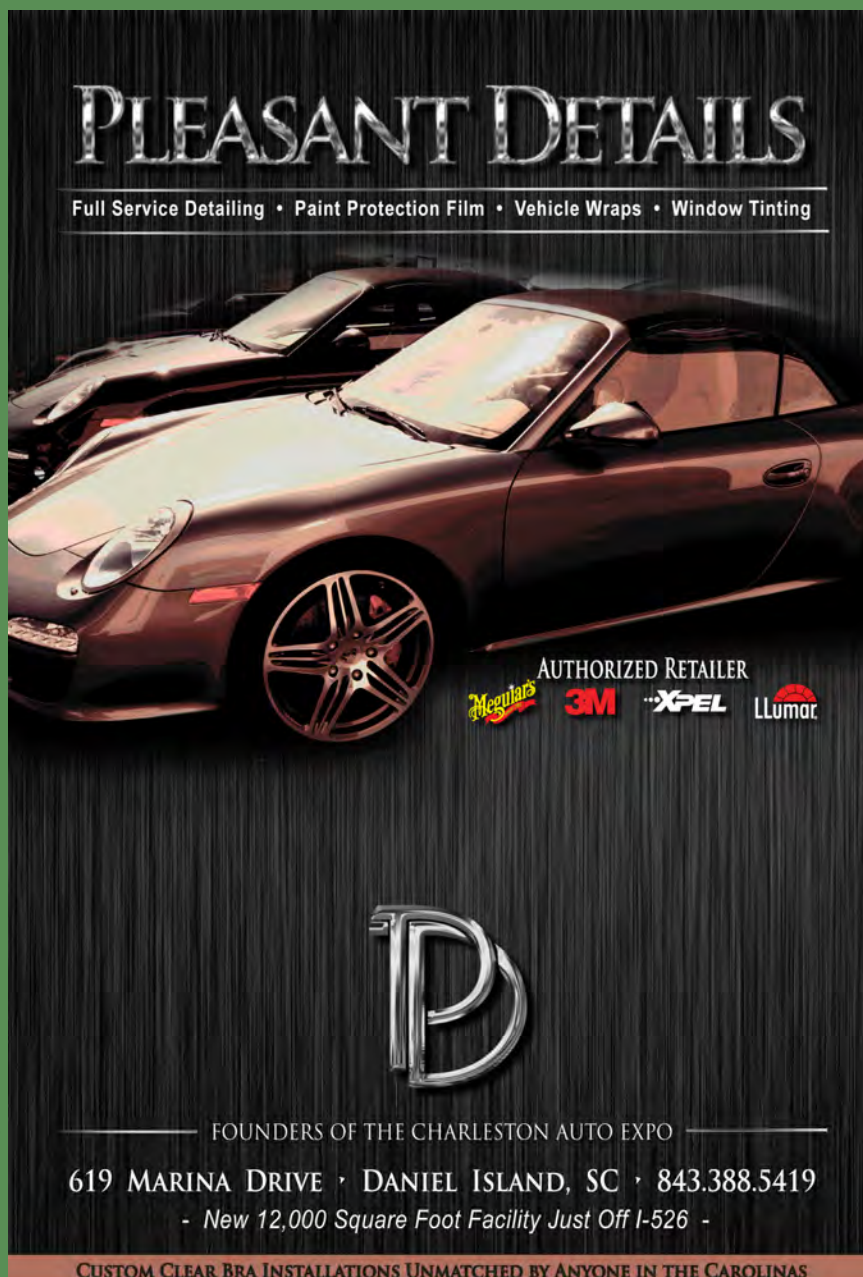
Along this journey, I am proud that Joe became a PCA DE Instructor in April. To address the weaknesses of our platform, we have installed racing seats so you don't slide around in the corners; upgraded the suspension to improve overall handling; installed a power upgrade to help gain speed on the straights; and lastly, we began using a Hans device with the harnesses for that "just-in-case" safety aspect. We are going faster than we were in 2009!

Although 2012 was over halfway over, in July, we took the first step to achieving our resolution with a "Club Day" weekend at VIR running the Full Course. Wow! After only driving Roebing, the changes in elevation were awesome! Video and TV cannot do justice to the downhill foot to the floor section after the curve known as South Bend – your stomach drops! And in the curve "Roller Coaster", the suspension compresses at the apex like that point at the bottom of the first big hill on a roller coaster (go figure on the curve name).

Our second step to achieving the goal was a Carolinas Region DE at CMP in September. With 14 corners including 3 that are approximately 40-45 mph, I was tired of shifting! Someone buy me a 991 with PDK...anyway... To wrap up our DE events for the year, our last event was a full DE weekend at VIR in November. It was very busy as Joe had 2 students and the run groups were large as you might imagine when you put 200 cars into 5 run groups. Combined with 4 DE weekends at Roebing and other fun driving events (Tail Trip, Petit LeMans, HHI Concours, drive & dine with the MB folks), we did a lot of driving in 2012!

The following is only my opinion and not meant as an endorsement of any particular track or organization. Joe and I have some observations about the 3 tracks and the different groups we have driven with over the last 3+ years. Note that the dates each group can run at a track are generally set and consistent from year to year so if you go to say Roebing in June, it's likely with Coastal Empire Region PCA. We have participated with 3 different PCA groups at Roebing Road. Florida Crown Region seemed to have the largest crowd – likely because one of their dates is in January when everyone is excited to play again after the holidays. Our experience with FL Citrus Region (February event) event was that it focused more on class time for new students compared to the other groups. Coastal Empire Region tended to have a smaller group of participants – of course, June in Savannah is not a popular time to hang out outside all weekend! Coastal Empire also has September and December events which several of our Palmetto Region friends have recently enjoyed.

If you read the DE rules, generally your attire is to include long sleeves and long pants. Coastal Empire would rather you not pass out from heat stroke, so shorts and short sleeves are allowed. The PCA Groups and the SCCA very diligently checked our helmets to confirm either a SA2005 or SA2010 rating. At the VIR Club Day, they didn't check my helmet beyond the fact that I had one on, but were hesitant to allow short sleeves ("we would prefer you not"). Virginia in July is not quite Savannah in June, but it's still very hot!



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If you consider the track operations themselves, we feel like Roebing is more of a “mom and pop” feel (although they are not relaxed on the rules – safety is first at all tracks!). Richard and Kay’s family staffs the snack bar and you’ll see their grandchildren playing while you eat. At VIR, all the staff has their matching polo shirts and marked service trucks that circle the paddock at regular intervals. CMP is in between with the official staff not in matching shirts, but they had to unlock the power hookup for us.

Lastly as we camp trackside, Roebing and VIR offer 50 amp electric service. You can actually get a full hookup site at VIR if you want to park slightly out of the paddock area (at more \$ per night than Roebing charges for the weekend). But CMP only has 30 amp electric and water is hard to find. As you have that nagging worry about what may happen if you do have an off-track experience, Roebing seems to have lots of run off room whereas VIR has lots of tire walls and guardrails.

All in all, as long as you know what you’re getting into (i.e. do we need to take water with us or how many are in this run group?) each group and track will allow you to enjoy high performance driving in the vehicle of your choice.

In conclusion: 2012 New Year’s Resolution achieved. I have driven 2 new tracks. I have proven to myself that my skills are transferable. I’m not saying I’m an expert driver, but it was nice to feel that I was able to run with the pack. And I can make certain Palmetto Region members jealous now that I have 3 shirts with track maps on their backs. J Also in 2012, we attended our first professional race at Road Atlanta including parade laps and attended the Hilton Head Concours. We plan to go to the Hilton Head Motoring Festival Concours next year with Porsche as the featured brand. I wonder what else 2013 will bring... I don’t have enough vacation to do One Lap with Herman. Maybe a Lemons. Maybe a non-track Porsche adventure. Only time will tell.

The Chronicles of Sir Stuttgart

By Sir “Stuie Stuttgart Dasen

Hello Porsche people. Merry Christmas. Happy Hanukah. Happy Holidays. Happy Lizard days. Since I just turned two years old this Christmas stuff is still pretty new to me. I do know that I get to rip open packages. I get lots of toys and dog snacks. It’s a pretty awesome day. Now I will say that I haven’t torn apart the Christmas tree or any of the decorations, this year. Last year, well that was a different story. I decapitated mom’s wine elf. She was not at all happy with that. I also tore apart two plastic serving bowls and completely annihilated an entire large dog bed. There was fuzz everyone. Oh, and I plucked off that little elf’s nose, I think he looks much better. Although he’ll probably look even better when mom sews up the holes in his hat and glues his head back onto the canister.

Presently I’m eyeing the stockings hanging up but I’m thinking that I might be better off just sticking to finished off my 3rd patio table cover. I’ve been teaching Baron some of the tricks of the trade. You see if he gets caught doing things it’ll mean more toys and snacks with my name on them under the Christmas tree. So far he’s decapitated 3 of mom’s whirlybirds in the back yard.

Oh, and one more Christmas note. Mom has this decoration that’s called the Jingle Buddies. They came from the hallmark store. It’s a snowman and a dog. It shakes back and forth and the snowman sings Jingle Bells and the dog barks to it. Then they really shake as they finish up. Harley HATES it. He goes nuts. Absolutely berserk when he hears them. He can’t even stand to look at them. He will sit on the floor look up at them and just whine. I know that deep down he really wants to tear them up. I think mom would disown him if he did that though. Mom loves the thing. Of course dad doesn’t help because Harley will be sleeping and he’ll just start singing Jingle Bells and Harley goes nuts. If only I could sing it, Geeze.

Anyway, enjoy this joyous season and I sure hope some of you get some new Porsche’s with big green bows on them. And if you do, please let me have a ride. I’d really like someone to take me to the beach so I can hunt sand crabs. Merry Christmas!



FEATURE PHOTO OF THE MONTH *October*

Mark Burget – Tail of the Dragon 2012 (Mark’s picture was supposed to be featured for October)





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Calendar: Upcoming Events in our Region and Beyond

For more information and event listings go to: <http://www.pcapalmetto.org/index.php>



Sat, Dec 08 5:00 PM Holiday Party Holiday Home near Pawley's Island

RSVP Deadline was December 1!!! The Myrtle Beach Area Annual Holiday Party at the home of Rocky and Robin Holliday on Pawley's Island from 5-9 pm. The evening will start off enjoying cocktails and a beautiful sunset over the marsh followed by appetizers beside the large outdoor fireplace. We will then retreat inside for a classic coastal seafood dinner. Dessert will be accompanied by a Chinese Gift Exchange. If you have never done a Chinese Gift Exchange, prepare for a laugh out loud good time. Please bring a wrapped gift (max \$15 value) to exchange. Two per couple for maximum fun for all.



Fri, Dec 14 7:00 PM Holiday Party Boykin Home on John's Island

The Holiday Party will be held at the home of Lisa & Joe Boykin on John's Island. The gathering will include a dinner buffet and holiday gift exchange. The cost for the event is \$6 per person which includes your dinner. BYOB. We need RSVPs for accurate food counts and payments in advance. Please RSVP via the website. The deadline for RSVP and payment is Dec 7th. For the gift exchange anything (preferably Porsche related) up to \$35 will be suitable. It will be a typical gift exchange where you have the opportunity to lose and get someone else's gift up to three times. The 2013 Board Elections will be finalized during the short business portion of the gathering. There will be annual awards and door prizes as well. Please RSVP ASAP if you have not done so already!



Tue, Jan 08 7:00 PM Monthly Social Vickery's, Shem Creek

Join us at Vickery's, Shem Creek (1313 Shrimp Boat Lane, Mt. Pleasant) for updates from the officers, to talk about upcoming events, and to socialize with your fellow Porscheheads.



Sun, Jan 13 TBD Porsche of Hilton Head Dinner Location in Charleston TBD

Porsche of Hilton Head wants to spend time with the Palmetto Region Members. The dealership will be hosting a dinner in the Charleston area. Details will be provided as soon as they are available.



TBD in January Palmetto Region Board Meeting

The Palmetto Region Board will be gathering with the MB Area to plan events for the year. You are welcome to participate or just send your ideas to Jennifer. Thanks.



Sat, Jan 26 Sun, Jan 27 Rolex 24 at Daytona Daytona International Speedway

The Rolex 24 At Daytona features international stars of DAYTONA Prototype and GT-class racing twice-around-the-clock in the ultimate test of driver and machine. Past race winners include Dario Franchitti, Scott Pruett, Hurley Haywood and Juan Pablo Montoya.

Breakfast with Dr. Bob, Sunflower Café, West Ashley, 8 am.

Monthly Social, Second Tuesday of each Month, Location TBD. Check website for details.

Note: Calendar events in bold type earn points toward the Palmetto Region Enthusiast of the Year Award.

For additional information and events outside of the Palmetto Region go to: <http://www.pcapalmetto.org/calendar/>

Many organizations have not yet posted their 2013 Calendars, but we look forward to seeing you and your Porsche at some of these events in the future!

Drive & Dine
Driver's Education
Professional Races
Monthly Socials

Spring Spin-Off Car Show
Porsche Parade
Autocross

Veterans Victory House Car Show
Gimmick Rally
Anniversary Party
Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance

Porsche Escape
Mountain Trip
Cars & Coffee



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SOMETHING GERMAN

German Christmas Traditions

Christmas, or *Weihnachten*, is considered by Germans to be the most important of the major holidays. Although secularized and commercialized compared to Christmas celebrations of yore, the German holiday season is a time for introspection, celebration, and family and friends; it is less consumption-oriented than in the United States. Not only the holiday itself, but also the weeks leading up to the celebration of Christmas involve many traditions and customs of diverse origins:

ADVENT: The German Christmas season officially begins with the first Sunday of Advent. Stollen, the oldest known German Christmas treat, and Christmas cookies (*Platzchen*) are often baked during this time. Gingerbread houses, nativity scenes, hand-carved wooden Nutcracker figures (*Nussknacker*), Christmas pyramids (*Weihnachtspyramiden*), and lighted city streets and homes are all signs that Christmas is on its way.

THE ADVENT WREATH – DER ADVENTSKRANZ: The Advent wreath (*Adventskranz*) is adorned with four candles, one of which is lit on each of the four Sundays preceding Christmas. The first Advent wreath, which appeared in the mid-19th century, had 4 larger candles and 19 smaller ones. Each day one additional candle was lit to help the children count the days until Christmas. Today only the four larger candles remain. However, the tradition has been exported to many other countries around the world and was adapted to existing customs. The Advent wreath of the Eastern Orthodox Church uses 6 candles to last through its somewhat longer Advent season.

The Advent wreath has been attributed religious and elemental significance. The tradition of a ring of light existed among the Germanic tribes many centuries before the celebration of Advent. It is believed that fewer candles were lit with each progressive lighting to represent the shortening of the days until the solstice, at which time the *Julfest* celebrated the return of light (Incidentally, the English word *yule* is a cognate with the Germanic *Jul*).

*Advent, Advent ...ein Lichtlein brennt
erst eins, dann zwei, dann drei, dann vier
dann steht das Christkind vor der Tür.*

THE ADVENT CALENDAR – DER ADVENTSKALENDER: The Advent calendar (*Adventskalender*) is a German invention that was originally designed to involve children in the festivities leading up to Christmas. The calendars are usually made of cardboard and have 24 small windows or flaps, one of which is opened on each day leading up to Christmas. Behind each window is a Christmas scene or motif. Nowadays, calendars may contain chocolate or candy behind each window, and sometimes even small toys. The Advent calendar is a more recent invention of modern capitalism. Originally families would mark the 24 days of December that preceded Christmas with a chalk line on the wall. The first hand-crafted Advent calendars were produced in the mid-19th century; the first printed calendar appeared in Munich in 1903. Eventually the custom was exported all over the world.

CHRISTMAS MARKETS – WEIHNACHTSMARKTE: When the Advent season opens, Christmas markets also crop up in nearly every German town, large or small. The town squares, normally dark early in winter months, are lit up and buzzing with activity during this time. Townspeople gather together, listen to brass band music, drink beer or hot mulled wine (*Gluhwein*) or apple cider, and enjoy the hearty traditional fare of the region. Vendors peddle baked goods, including gingerbread hearts, sugar-roasted almonds, crepes, cookies, stollen, cotton candy and other sweets. Christmas tree decorations, seasonal items, and handcrafted articles, such as wooden toys and hand-blow glass ornaments, are also sold.

Christmas markets date back to at least the 14th century and were one of the many markets held throughout the year. It was here that people bought everything they needed for the Christmas celebration: baking moulds, decorations, candles, and toys for the children. In fact, until well into the 20th century, the *Weihnachstmarkte* were the only place for people to buy such seasonal items. Markets differ from place to place; each has its own regional imprint. The market at Aachen, for instance is known for its gingerbread men (*Aachner Printen*). The regions around the *Erzgebirge* mountain range are famous for their handmade wooden crafts. Augsburg has a life-sized Advent calendar and opens the holiday season with its famous “Angel Play.” At the Frankfurt Christmas Market, visitors will find *Quetschenmanuchen* (little prune men) and *Brenten* (almond cookies). The most famous Christmas market is the Nurnberger *Christkindlesmarkt*, which is known for its gold foil angels and locally produced gingerbread cakes. At least 375 years old, it is one of the oldest, and with over 200 vendors participating each year, it is also one of the largest *Weihnachstmarkte* in Germany.

SAINT NICHOLAS – SANKT NIKOLAUS: St. Nicholas Day is celebrated on December 6th in Germany as well as in other European countries. On the evening before the 6th, children place their newly cleaned shoes in front of the door in the hope that Nicholas might fill them with nuts, fruits, chocolate, and sweets. If the children have behaved well, their wishes will be fulfilled. Children who have caused mischief will receive only a switch, which symbolizes punishment for their bad deeds.

The real St. Nicholas lived in the 4th century and was the bishop of a region located in present-day Turkey. Through stories and legends associated with him, he became known as the protector of children and the anonymous bestower of gifts upon them. Over the centuries, the life and deeds of St. Nicholas were celebrated on the saint’s appointed day, the 6th of December. By the Middle Ages, the observance had already become a celebration of children and a day on which they received gifts. It was the German Martin Luther who sought to sever the connection between the saint and the gift-giving celebration for children, because in his Reformation theology, there was no place for the glorification of saints. Rather than abolishing the custom outright, Luther replaced the persona of Nicholas with that of the Christ child; in his Protestant teachings, not Nicholas but rather now the baby Jesus was attributed with bringing the children gifts and not on the saint’s day but rather at Christmas. Today in many regions of Germany, not Saint Nick, but rather the *Christkindl* leaves Christmas gifts for children on December 24th.

The adherents of the Catholic Counterreformation did not quietly accept the diminishment of their saint. They responded to the practices of the unorthodox Protestants by making Nicholas a figure that visited families' homes on his appointed day and stood in judgment over children. If the young ones could answer religious questions and said their bedtime prayers faithfully, they received a gift from the sack that Nicholas' companions, Knecht Ruprecht, had slung over his shoulder. Those that slacked in their religious commitments got the switch or were threatened with being hauled off in Ruprecht's sack.

Today children in all the German-speaking regions, regardless of religious denomination, celebrate *Nicholastag*. Ruprecht, who typically carries a basket filled with edible goodies for the children (and also the switches for the naughty children), has become Nicholas' constant companion. In German-speaking Switzerland, Ruprecht is known as Schmutzli.

SANTA CLAUS – DER WEIHNACHTSMANN: The figure of Santa Claus, known in Germany as der *Weihnachtsmann* (literally, “the Christmas man”), is a direct descendant of Saint Nicholas, as can easily be seen from the derivation of the name “Santa Claus”. The English appellation came directly from the Dutch variant “Sinterklaas”. Centuries-old Northern European tradition also knew a similar figure – a bearded old man in a long, brown, hooded fur coat who traveled on a reindeer-drawn sled. Carrying a staff and nuts, respectively symbolizing fertility and non-perishable, substantial nourishment, this figure from Lapland represented preparation for the long winter season ahead. This figure likely in turn descends from the god Thor or another deity from Germanic mythology.

Many of the characteristics attributed to the modern-day Santa Claus are easily recognizable in both the St. Nicholas figure and the personality descended from old Germanic folklore. The *Weihnachtsmann*, much like Santa Claus, is depicted as a jolly old man with a long white beard in a red fur suit, with a sack of presents and a switch. On Christmas Eve he leaves gifts for the well-behaved children and punishes those who have been bad. He doesn't arrive through the chimney, but rather slips in and out just long enough to leave the gifts, usually before children can catch a glimpse of him. Depending on the German-speaking region, today it is either the *Weihnachtsmann* or the *Christkind* (Christ child) who leaves gifts for the children to open on December 24th in Germany.

CHRISTMAS TREE – DER TANNENBAUM: The German *Tannenbaum* is usually put up and decorated on Christmas Eve, though some families opt to erect their tree during the Advent season. Traditionally, the Germans used the fir tree, but nowadays the spruce is widely used. Decorations may include tinsel, glass balls or straw ornaments and sweets. A star or an angel tops the *Tannenbaum*, and beneath the tree, a nativity scene might be set up and the presents next to it. Germans also usually continue to use real lit candles instead of electric lights of the tree.

The first known Christmas tree was set up in 1419 in Freiburg by the town bakers, who decorated the tree with fruits, nuts, and baked goods, which the children were allowed to remove and eat on New Year's Day. The town guilds and associations first brought evergreens inside their guild houses and decorated them with apples and sweets. Candles were eventually added to the decorations. Already since the Middle Ages, ordinary Germans had been bringing yew, juniper, mistletoe, holly, and evergreen boughs – any plant that maintained its green color through the lifeless and dreary winter months – into their homes. Even in areas where forests were sparse, the tradition took hold: people in Northern Germany, for instance, used Christmas pyramids (*Weihnachtspryamid*) in lieu of Christmas trees. They pyramid form was created using sticks that were then decorated with fir branches. By 1800, the custom of bringing a tree into the home was firmly established in many German-speaking regions and continued to spread throughout Europe, and eventually, around the world. The custom was brought to North America by German-speaking immigrants to Pennsylvania and Ohio in the 18th century.

The *Tannenbaum* is taken down on New Year's Day or on January 6th, Three King's Day, at which time the children can ransack the tree for the sweets and treats that decorated it.

CHRISTMAS EVE – HEILIGER ABEND (ALSO HEILIGABEND): December 24th begins as a regular workday. But by 2:00pm, often even earlier, businesses close in preparation for the holiday celebration, a large part of which occurs on Christmas Eve in Germany. The traditional evening meal includes carp and potato salad. Families sing Christmas carols together and may read the story of Christ's birth aloud. Family members exchange gifts; children are typically the focal point of the gift exchange. The tradition of opening gifts on *Heiliger Abend* (rather than on December 6th in honor of St. Nicholas) was started by Martin Luther in the 16th century in favor of a celebration that honored Christ rather than a Catholic saint.

On Christmas Eve, German families whether Protestant or Catholic and even those who are not regular church-goers, often attend mass or a church service. While the mass traditionally takes place a midnight, in recent times the services have moved into the earlier evening hours.

CHRISTMAS DAY(S) – DER ERSTE UND ZWEITE WEIHNACHTSTAG: Both December 25 and 26 are legal holidays in Germany and are known as the First and Second Christmas Day respectively. What originally started out as a church celebration of Christ's birth gradually became a family celebration. Businesses are closed, and time is spent visiting with extended family. Goose is the traditional fare on the First Christmas Day, or perhaps rabbit or a roast. These are accompanied by traditional German fare such as apple and sausage stuffing, red cabbage, and potato dumplings. The second Christmas day is usually a quieter time, a day for peaceful contemplation.



Members Corner

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New transfer members:

Philippe Agafonovas

1990 964

Alex Anderson

2005 Boxster

Bryan Shriver

1984 944

Bert Utsey

2006 Cayman

Judith Utsey

2001 911 Cab

A warm Low country welcome to you !!! We look forward to seeing you at our next outing.

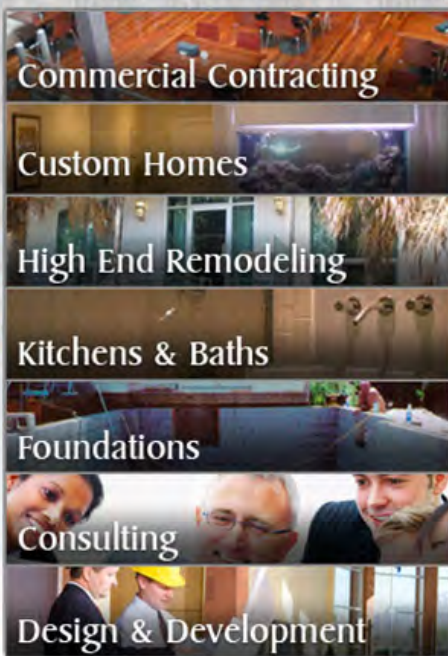
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Final Thoughts from the Prez...

With the last meeting of the year here, its time to pass the torch over to Jennifer, our new incoming President. With none of the Officer positions being opposed, according to the bylaws the positions have been elected starting the new year. Jennifer has a bunch of ideas for making our club better but still needs our support and input. Even if you don't have the time to help, your ideas will. I'll still be here to help with everything I can as well. With that being said, most of you know I put in for the Zone Representative position. I didn't get it but am sure that Jim Cambron from Heart O'Dixie will do a great job! Congrats Jim !! This will allow me to get more seat time with my new addition. I have purchased a 1988 944 SPEC2 and GTS1 race car. I took it to Roebing this past weekend for my first venture in the car. All I can say is "Awesome!" Remember-"it's not just the cars, it's the people..." Ken

New officers starting Jan 1, 2013: Jennifer Mills—President, Herman Porter—Vice president, Nicole Lefebvre—Treasurer, Rose Ann Boxx—Secretary, Myrtle Beach Area Director—Todd Marshall, Al Trego—Membership Chair, Jackie Dasen—Newsletter Editor, and Josh Stolarz—Webmaster



coming soon >>>

Upcoming events

- Dec 8—Holiday Party for Myrtle Beach Area
- Dec 14—Holiday Party for Charleston Area
- Jan 8—Monthly Member Meeting @ Vickery's
- Jan 13—Dinner with Porsche of Hilton Head
- Jan 26-27—Rolex 24 at Daytona
- Jan (TBA) - Palmetto Region Board Meeting

" it's not just the cars, it's the people..."



Jackie Dasen,
Newsletter Editor
215 Oak Circle
Walterboro, SC 29488



1442MM
photography by SEAN TROY

FEATURE PHOTO OF MONTH — Karl Troy's 911 Twin Turbo – photo by Sean Troy

Monthly Member Meeting
- Holiday Party
Dec 14, 2012
4674 Chisolm Road
John's Island, SC
(LOOK for PCA Sign)