

Absaroka Arrow

November—December 2023

Volume 45 — Issue 6



The Newsletter of the Porsche Club of America Absaroka Region



Photo: Dan Cole, Absaroka Region

<http://abs.pca.org/>

Holiday Season is Coming

The holiday season is approaching us in Absaroka Region. We hope you can find time to be with loved ones and celebrate this time of year with your family's favorite traditions.

Be thankful all you have and the good fortune in your life.

We hope next year will bring you all joy, new challenges, adventures and laughs.

Make some memories in your Porsche. Be happy.

Porsche Club of America Absaroka Region



2022–2024 ABSAROKA OFFICERS / BOARD



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2001 Boxster S



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Submit by the 1st of the month prior to the publication month. The editor reserves the right to edit the ad if it is over 40 words. The ad is free to members.

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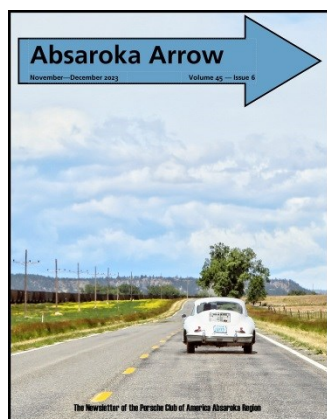
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ON OUR COVER:

Graham Beckett 1965 356 C
"On the road again....."

PHOTO BY: Dan Cole, Absaroka Region

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President's Message

Lynnsey S. — President Absaroka Region



Hello All,
It seems as though our driving season has come to an end. I want to thank you all for a wonderful year, we had a lot of fun drives and get-togethers. We have one more planned holiday party, where we all get together to exchange fun gifts à la rob-your-neighbor style and hors d'oeuvres.

During this holiday time, I also like to focus on giving. In the past we have donated to Toys For Tots, bringing in Porsche-loads of presents (Porsche-loads is a technical term, right?) We have always brought the presents to our annual

holiday party, depending on when it is. If our party is after the deadline we get together beforehand to get the toys to the drop off center at MARS of Billings. We will let you know either way. Remember, the season is for giving. We recently gave to the scholarship fund at the City College as well as the Michael J Fox Foundation with the proceeds from our All Euro Car Show.

Stay well, be kind,

Thank you all for a great year, I look forward to seeing where the club goes next. And I hope to see you all out and about this holiday season, and especially at the Holiday Party (TBA).



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Editor's Message

Dan C.

Well, another year is coming to a close in the Absaroka Region and what a fun year it has been, albeit with some sorrow. We enjoyed lots of activities, gained new members and sadly lost 2 of our dearest friends, Susan Peacock and recently her longtime partner Graham Beckett. They'll both be missed.

In this issue of the Absaroka Arrow, there's a report on the Hasbrouck's and my trip to Rennsport Reunion VII, the wonderful new member party at the Moose Willow Long Horn Ranch, a year in review and a farewell to our dear friend Graham. I'd also like to welcome the new Absaroka leadership team with open arms. The great thing about being a small region is being able to affect change without lots of bureaucracy. You all can come up with ideas and plans and make them a reality. I'm looking forward to seeing where you can all take us.

To our outgoing leadership team for staying the course through some challenging times these past couple years a big well done and thank you!

Finally, I wanted to say something about my friend Graham. In my 30 plus years in the Porsche Club of America, I've met and had a pint with lots of PCA members from volunteers at Porsche Parade to the CEO of Porsche AG and the sons of Ferry Porsche. Graham was a favor-

ite in that group to share a pint with.

I first got to know Graham at the 2012 Porsche Parade in Salt Lake City. Fred Magers and I were at Parade and on our own amongst the hundreds of attendees. Graham introduced us to his second "family," Alaska Region. He and they welcomed us with open arms into their circle. That simple gesture changed our Parade experience completely and made me want to return each year to see my new friends from Alaska.

Graham was a car guy. We know him as a Porsche driver, but he also was a member of the Ford Model A club amongst others. He was also very generous with his cars. I know he lent his Porsches to others to drive across country to the Porsche Parade on several occasions. I don't know too many Porsche drivers who would have done that.

Lastly, Graham was my fellow Formula One racing junkie. When race weekends came, we spoke often about qualifying, and then after the race on Sunday. We also talked about racing drivers from the past like 1958 F1 World Champion Mike Hawthorne and Mexican Ferrari sports car driver Pedro Rodriguez. Graham and Mike both attended Chelsea College of Aeronautical and Automobile Engineering, Mike however being about four years older. Mike Hawthorn was killed in

1959 in a road accident after he retired from racing. Pedro Rodriguez once drove Graham's white 356 in 1970 in an ice race in Alaska. Pedro died driving a Ferrari 512M at the Nürburgring in 1971.

There's an Italian pop song called "Marmellata #25" by Cesare Cremonini that says:

*"Ma, da quando Senna non corre più
Ah, da quando Baggio non gioca più
Non è più Domenica"*

*"But, since Senna no longer races
Ah, since Baggio no longer plays
It's not Sunday anymore"*

One of the last times I saw Graham, I was stopped at the corner getting ready to turn right towards the Laurel Golf Club for our monthly club breakfast. I looked left and saw his blue 993 coming towards me. It made me smile.

I'll miss him. Sundays won't be Sundays anymore.

Tschüß.

Dan

Join Us for Porsches & Pancakes



November and December's venue for Porsche & Pancakes is the Laurel Golf Club located at 1020 Golf Course Rd, Laurel, MT 59044 Please join us for a cup of coffee, or a hearty breakfast.

We meet at 9:00 AM, for good food and spirited conversation. It's a great opportunity to meet other club members, look at an ever-changing collection of Porsches, and enjoy a tasty meal. It is also a very good reason to get out of bed on a Saturday morning and meet the folks before tackling the honey-do list!

Join us at: Laurel Golf Club Muzzleloader 1020 Golf Course Rd, Laurel, MT 59044

When: Saturday, November 11, Saturday and December 9, at 9:00 AM

Don't be shy, come join us!

ABSAROKA REGION — Calendar Of Events

Porsches & Pancakes — 2nd Saturday of Each Month

Event Type: Social

When: Monthly on the 2nd Saturday, 9:00 AM

Where: Various locations check for details

Contact: Lynnsey S. — Tel: 406.860.0984

Details — Porsches and Pancakes takes place every 2nd Saturday of the month. We meet at 9:00 AM and wrap up a little after 10:00 AM. Sometimes we go for a drive, if there's interest. Come join in the conversation.

November— Laurel Golf Club, 1020 Golf Course Road, Laurel, MT 59044

December —Laurel Golf Club, 1020 Golf Course Road, Laurel, MT 59044

Annual Christmas—Holiday Party

Event Type: Social

When: TBD

Where: TBD

Contact: Lynnsey S. — Tel: 406.860.0984

Details — Details to follow

Absaroka Sponsors

- ♦ Dana Motors
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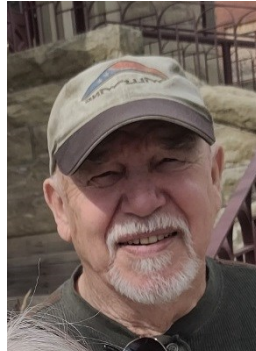
Absaroka Officers for 2024-2026



President
Jack Burke



Vice President
Richard Hall



Treasurer
Duane House



Secretary
Francie Hasbrouck

Absaroka Committee Reports

- ◆ Board of Directors
- Election of new officers for 2024-2026 was held at the Annual New Member
- ◆ All Euro Car Show
- Nothing to report

Absaroka Membership Updates

Primary Members/Associate/Total:

67/46/113

New Members:

1 Charles and Renee V., Laurel, 1973 914 1.7

Renewals (YEARS):

5 Sean and Jessi E. (2), Erik and Stephanie K. (8), Anthony S. and Shawna W. (13), Stephanie H. (13), J.S. and Barbara H. (32)

Transfers (In/Out):

Non-Renewals:

1 Mike M.

Test Drive:

2

PCA Juniors

Graham E. Beckett — 1933-2023

Charter Member of Alaska Region



April 29, 1933 – October 20, 2023

Graham E. Beckett passed away of natural causes on October 20, 2023. He was born at home on April 29, 1933, to Edward G. “Ted” and Doris M. Scott Beckett in the borough of North Harrow, London, England. After graduating from high school, Graham attended Chelsea College of Aeronautical and Automobile Engineering in London. Upon finishing school, he was conscripted into the British Army from 1953-

1955, training in mechanics. In 1960, Graham sailed to the United States and traveled by train to Chicago, where he lived and worked for a short time. Graham then bought a 1956 Volkswagen bus and drove up the Alcan Highway to Alaska in 1961, beginning his 53-year-long adventure in the North country.

Graham worked as a mechanic and in hotel and restaurant management in Anchorage and Juneau prior to his 25-year career on the North Slope of

Alaska as a heavy equipment mechanic on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline and for various oil companies. In Alaska, Graham was an active member of many car clubs and pursued his keen interest in car racing.

After retiring, his next venture began in 2004 when he moved to Billings, Montana, to be closer to family. In Montana, he was also involved with several car clubs and thoroughly enjoyed meeting with friends and taking road trips for a few days or weeks.

Throughout his life, Graham loved people, dogs, and cars - especially Porsches. He made great friends wherever he went and enjoyed traveling to warmer climates, taking trips to Hawaii, Arizona, North Carolina, Mexico, as well as back home to England. He attended numerous annual Porsche Parades around the country and continued to enjoy driving right up until his passing.

Graham volunteered for many years, delivering Meals on Wheels in Billings until his 89th year. He valued his last two years at St. John's United-WyndStone where he made new friends and appreciated the excellent staff.

Graham was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Valerie Benson, his former wife, Reiko Beckett, and his partner of over 40 years, Susan Peacock. He is survived by his son, Glenn and Colleen Beckett of Broadview, Montana, and grandchildren Morgan, Brenna, and Callie Beckett; his daughter, Eileen Beckett of Kalispell, Montana, and grandchildren Meredith and Nora Iams; and his stepson, Matt Smith of Alaska.

Cremation has taken place. There will be a Celebration of Life on Saturday, November

18, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Heights Family Funeral Home, 733 West Wicks Lane, Billings, Montana, with reception following. Condolences may be shared at <https://www.heightsfamilyfuneralhome.com/>.



PORSCHE RENNSPORT 7 REUNION



Top Left: JR Hildebrand, **Middle:** Porsche 962, **Right:** 356

Above: Mark Webber, Porsche 908, **Center:** Magnus Walker

Left: Carz Stars, Lightnin' McQueen and Sallie Carrera, **Center:** Porsche 936 and 917,

Right: Porsche 917 and 908 at the Corkscrew



New Member Party 2023

Moose Willow Long Horn Ranch, Roberts Montana



What a wonderful turnout! This year's party was the biggest with members attending and new members joining our ranks. There was a colorful collection of Porsches scattered across the lawn and even an infiltrator in an Audi R8!

President Lynnsey D. Slanina called the group to order, and new officers for the following two years were proposed and elected.

After everyone enjoyed a beverage and some conversation, the party kicked off with a wonderful supper of steaks and an assortment of delicious sides. No one left hungry for sure!

Following dinner, the action shifted to the driveway where Anthony had a collection of RC cars liveried in Porsche motifs ready for rac-

ing. A circuit was constructed, and the games began!

Hopefully, all of our new members felt welcomed and will return to our future activities in Absaroka Region.

Thank you so much to Doug and Cheri for hosting at their beautiful Moose Willow Longhorn Ranch.

Members

Doug and Cheri Oakes

Lynnsey Slanina and Anthony Wain

Gary Slanina

Stephanie Haider

Steve and Sallie Hildenburg

Stephanie and Erik Krueger

Tim Sherry

Rick and Kathy Brookshier

Dan Cole and Jo Pintz- Cole

Jim and Francie Hasbrouck

Jim and Karen Grace

Jack and Patty Murphy Burke

Lance Pederson

Allen Nejelski

New Members

David Beers

Duane and Barb House

Jon and Suzanne Graves

Richard and Amy Hall

Roadtrip to Rennsport Reunion VIII

Rennsport Reunion VII

For those of you who don't know what Rennsport Reunion is, here's a description; collect all of the great Porsche racing cars, drivers, and fans and cram them into a race-track for a long weekend and go racing! There are multimillion dollar, historic Porsches going full throttle and side by side, driven by some of the best and most famous drivers in the world. As a fan you have the best up-close access for photos, autographs, sounds, and smells. It is unprecedented anywhere in else in motorsports!

Rennsport Reunion is put on as a collaboration between Porsche Cars North America and Porsche AG in Germany. For the past several occurrences, it's been held at Laguna Seca, in car crazy, Monterey, California. Past venues have been at Limerock in Connecticut and Daytona in Florida. The Porsche Club of America is also heavily involved as they supply almost all the volunteers which makes it all happen.

Myself, Jack Burke and Jim Hasbrouck attended RR6 back in 2018 and when RR7 was announced we all jumped on going again. I think we had our tickets to the event, parking in the Porsche Corral and hotel reservations for over a year.

The Drive In My Boxster S

Last time we went to RR6 we took

Jack's RV to camp in and my VW Touareg as our get around vehicle. This time we decided to all drive so we could do a parade laps if they came available. Parade laps went on sale and PCA members attending got an early heads up for purchase. They sold out in short order for each of the four days.

My trip to RR7 began early on Tuesday with a drive over to Boise, Idaho to see my mom and then on Wednesday on to Salinas, California. Going via Boise was only 87 miles further, but the chance to see my mom priceless. I took the 2-lane



highway from I-15 at Dubois, Idaho across the plains to Arco, Idaho; the first city powered by atomic energy, through Craters of the Moon National Monument, past the world's best fishing stream, "Silver Creek" near Sun Valley, Idaho and on to Boise.

Jim and Francie left Tuesday midafternoon and were headed via the most direct route. Jack said he was leaving on Wednesday. Late Wednesday, somewhere in the wide-open spaces of Nevada, he calls me and says he's not cancelling

since his son couldn't make it from Southern California. Bummer, they were both missed.

Driving my Boxster on long trips is in fairness is a labor of love. It's small and cramped in the cabin, especially with Jo, her pillow, purse, etc. Also, the 20 years of technology upgrades my Macan S enjoys, such as handsfree cell phone and satellite radio are really missed. The Boxster is also a bit noisy with the soft top. She's really a wonderful 300 mile per day car, not a 600+ mile per day car, there the 911, or my Macan S wins hands down.

Then comes a great mountain road! In this case it was the old route of US 40 up and over Donner Pass in California outside Truckee. The 986 Boxster gets little respect in today's Porsche world where only the GT cars seem to matter, but I can tell you after owning several 911s, she is a pure-bred PORSCHE! She carved up the mountain turns, her flat six revving and giving her driver an ear-to-ear smile. Pure *Fahrenvergnügen*! I love that car!

Driving in California is always inter-





esting. It's a beautiful state, but they all drive fast and there is LOTS of traffic. Given that, and near \$7.00 per gallon premium gas prices, I'll take Montana any day of the week. You do see some great cars on the road in California. In this case, outside Auburn on I-80 was a new 911 Dakar. Now that's a cool looking Porsche!

Travelling south down I-5, I missed the rat race of the Bay Area and had little traffic headed over the hills into the Monterey peninsula (traffic going the other direct however was pure gridlock). Once again more interesting cars, trailered 911s, and an RS Spyder racecar on a flat bed.

I rolled into Salinas late afternoon on Wednesday, got checked in, settled, and then made the requisite stop at the In & Out Burger across the street. The end to a perfect day for me.

Jim and Francie arrived around nine in the evening. It was good seeing them. Tomorrow was going to come early with our first activity, Parade

Laps!

Thursday – A Porsche High

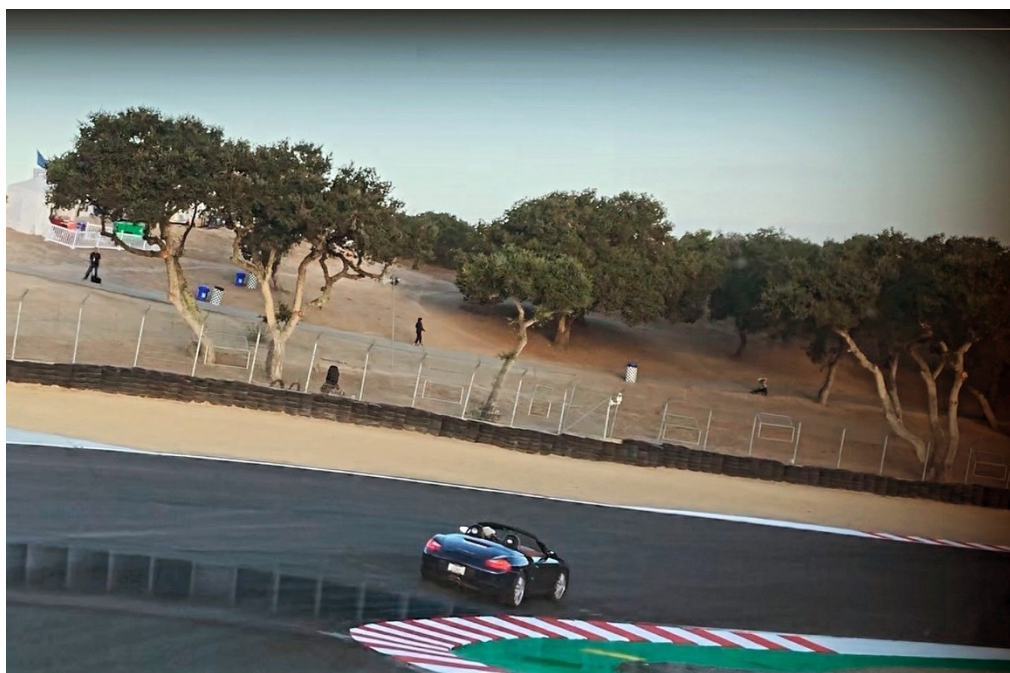
Jim, Francie and I headed to WeatherTech Raceway Park before the sun came up for our parade laps. That was an adventure, we got lost in the dark, and not knowing where to go was a bit confusing. It all worked out and we were formed up in our line; me, Jim and Francie, and two cars back a black 918 Spyder.

We entered the circuit in turn 5,

with the sun in our eyes. They told us it was a Parade Lap, but everyone was giving it the beans! The first corner, turn 6 was where we camped last time, and I took hundreds of photos. It's a fast left hander as you head up the hill to the Corkscrew, one of the greatest corners in motor racing. I enjoyed driving the corner I took so many photos at. It really added some perspective appreciation of it.

The Corkscrew is a left-hand corner with a totally blind apex, it abruptly drops 59 feet like a rock, and then turns right. You can't see the first apex. Image that at speed. I knew from doing my homework, to turn to the left, and aim at the third tree from the left you see in front of you. I did that and it was perfect! If you ever went to Disneyland back in the day, the best rides required an "E Ticket." These rides were the most fun and scariest. The Corkscrew IS an E-Ticket.

After the Corkscrew, there's a couple sweeping corners back to the main straight and then you repeat the lap. Our small group was lead,



albeit slowed down a bit, by a 356, but I know they were having as much fun as I was.

We did a second lap which was equally as exhilarating as the first and the best \$60 I've spent. There is something about driving a Porsche on a racetrack, it just wants to go FAST! Have I said I love my Boxster!

After parade Laps, my first stop was the PCA merch store in the Porsche Platz to buy an event car badge. You could buy up to 5 of them per person. Some in line ahead of me were buying 5 at a time (the were \$85.00 each). Later that day I saw one on eBay for \$999.99, don't know if it sold for that, but they were selling easily for around \$225!

I didn't even think about RR7 merch line. The line was 2+ hours long to get in, an hour to check out, and was sold out of all the good stuff by mid-day Friday. Again, people we seen leaving with stacks of hats, etc. Running out of merch, access

to the store and hoarders was a problem that needs to be addressed in the future.

After the goodie store, I was headed back to the Boxster Corral to drop off my purchases when my phone rang. It was Stephen Gies, who said to turn around and look up in the stands. There he was waving. Turns out, Quinn Letsinger from European Performance and Josh from Virtuoso Detailing were with him and Quinn said that looks like Dan Cole walking over there. Later that day, Quinn caught up with my in the Boxster Corral, it's a small Porsche family and world.

Jim, Francie, and I spent the afternoon in the shade of a big oak at the Corkscrew. Porsche had a beer garden there where if you signed up you got a token for a beer and a Brat. It's great to have friends that don't drink as I enjoyed Jim and Francie's cold beers! Thank you, Jim and Francie!

After leaving the Corkscrew late in



the day, Francie headed off to find Lightning McQueen and Sallie Carrera. I went off on another photo safari in the paddock.

Thursday wrapped up with a drive back to Salinas and dinner at Olive Garden. It was a very fun day.

Friday - Volunteering

Friday began at a regular hour, but the drive there was a massive traffic jam. The 15 odd miles took more than an hour and a half. From Salinas, it's a two-lane highway and massive amounts of traffic because of the event. Once at the track, parking in the designated Boxster Corral was a breeze. It was great being parked next to so many Boxsters, many driven by my friends on PCA's Boxster Register where I'm a moderator and admin. It was fun putting faces to names.

The big highlight of Friday were more photos from different locations, watching two 550 Spyders arriving and volunteering.

Volunteering is one thing PCA does great and takes events like this to another level when attending. PCA volunteers make it all work and I highly recommend taking the time to do so. You'll be rewarded with memories, meeting new friends, a PCA Volunteer T-Shirt and free RR7 poster!

I was originally set to work in the



Boxster Corral, but my PCA friend and PCA Corral leader Dave Bunch moved me to a better gig in the GT Corral. The GT Corral was full of great Porsches like Carrera GT, GT2 RS, GT3 RS, GT4 RS, etc, etc..... It was the easiest work ever. Fun cars, and people, watching the races and enjoying the sunshine.

Another fun day at the track.

Back in Salinas, Jim Francie and I found some dinner at a wonderful Mexican restaurant down the street from our hotel. There sure isn't anything like that here in Billings!

After dinner, I started pondering heading home a day early. I had checked all my "to do" boxes at Rennsport and Jim and Francie were going to go exploring on Saturday and make their way back towards home. For me getting home a day early meant less hassle getting ready to go back to work, and a day to decompress. I decided to wait until the morning to decide.

Saturday – Headed Home

I woke up on Saturday morning early, and my decision was made when I looked out the window and it was raining. I really didn't want to stand around in the rain all day. I didn't bring any rain gear and it didn't sound like much fun. I did mean however I would miss the Doobie Brothers concert on Saturday night. Porsche always has a band play on Saturday evening at the track. This year they purposely were vague on who the performers were. For good reason it turned out, as had it gotten out the Doobie Brothers were playing, the tickets would have been scalped up by non Rennsport

loving folk! Saturday was a sellout with over 90,000 people!

So packed up and hit the road. It was back over to I-5, and on towards I-80 and Elko, Nevada. It rained most of the way. I wanted to stop in Elko to go to a Basque restaurant called the Star Hotel. My dad used to take me there when I was little back in the late 60's early 70's. It was still the same with massive amounts of food and delicious. This time however, I got to enjoy their signature cocktail called a *Picon Punch*. A *Picon Punch* is made with a liqueur called Amer Picon and to me was like my favorite cocktail, the Negroni.

Sunday – Back in Billings

Sunday was an uneventful full day drive back to Billings in the rain. When I pulled into the garage, my little Boxster was filthy with a coat of muddy grime.

On our journey to Rennsport Reunion VII and back, my Boxster and I covered 2,811 miles, averaging

24.5 mph and an average of 65 mph. I don't know how much I spent on gas because I can't count that high. All in all, not too bad for a twenty-two-year-old Porsche driving over 80 mph on the freeways.

Road trips are fun and memorable, but without my best friend Jo they're just not the same. It was good to be home and back in Montana.

Oh, did I say I love my Boxster S!





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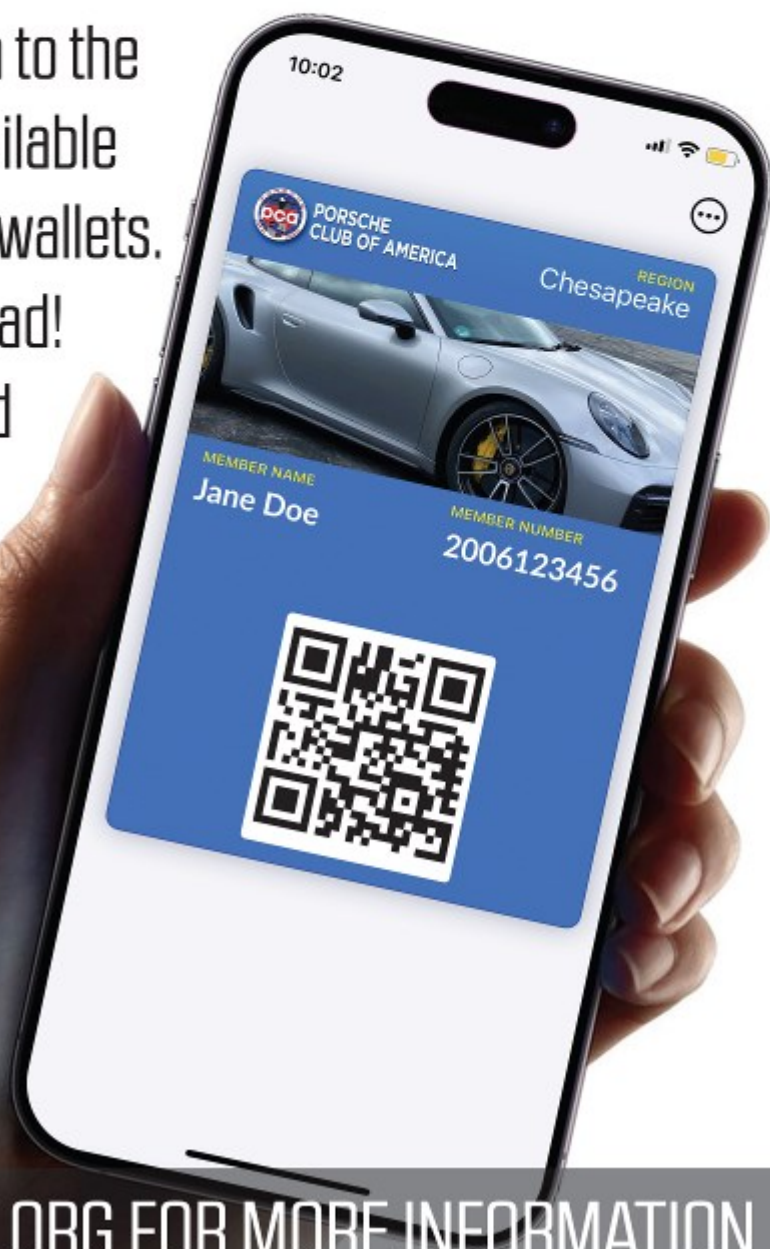
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XPEL Fusion Plus bonds at the molecular level to seal and protect your vehicle's surfaces. Fusion Plus offers unrivaled gloss, improved scratch resistance, and fading with a single application. Its hydrophobic properties repel dirt and liquids, making surfaces easier to clean.

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