



FALL ISSUE



VOLUME 3 ISSUE 4 SEPTEMBER 1994

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, here it is at last!!! The "Fall" issue of our newsletter with a word of explanation. Unfortunately, I have resumed being the newsletter person for this issue only. Fortunately, Larry and Betty Heitman have offered to assume the position of Editor/Publisher of our Gruppe Newsletter, and your continued support would be appreciated. All articles and photographs of general interest to 356er's accepted.

The Fall calendar has two events scheduled for October. The first is a "cruise" dinner October 1 hosted by Sebastian and Narmeen Gaeta. The second event is our "annual" Fall Color Tour scheduled for October 22 and 23. Lanita and Ted Dunham have planned a day's drive to the Gilmore Automotive Museum in the Kalamazoo area with dinner afterward at Gull Lake. The tour is a joint drive with the Southeastern Michigan Region of PCA. (See inside pages for details.)

I have reserved three rooms in Shelby, Ohio, for the SCCA run-offs in October. The cost is approximately \$45 per night -- good deal! If anyone is interested, please call me at 313-561-8186 before October 1 or they will be returned.

Charley Brown has offered to host our annual Christmas part at him home. The date and details will follow in the next issue.

Now, put on your thinking caps - it's election time for the Motor Cities Gruppe Club Officers. For the last five years or so, Bonnie and I have toiled to bring the Gruppe together and, along with alot of help from all you Gruppies, give it an identity. 1994 was the year we incorporated; created a logo, club grille badge and label pin; charged dues and settled down as a genuine club within the 356 world. At times, it has been a real struggle to get the newsletter out and all; but, it has also been fun with a great Gruppe of friends. So, now it is time for new blood -- according to our bylaws (sorry they have not been printed yet), December's Christmas party is our annual meeting and elections. Please contact Tim Walls at 810-889-2366 with your suggestions for President and Advisory Board.

A special thanks to Sam Rosenberg of Sam's Detail Shop in Farmington Hills for his donation of a car detail certificate for the Grand prize in our July Mystery Tour Drive which was won by Don Muñoz and the July Picnic Raffle which was won by Steve Scannell.



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Fred Sheill



HOW TO CONVERT YOUR LIVING ROOM/DEN TO A GARAGE

One of the biggest dilemmas of a car enthusiast is inadequate storage space for collectable cars. For most of us, the one or two car garage is the limit. It is possible to store at least one more car at your home with some planning and modifications. Converting your unused living room or den to a garage makes more sense than you may realize.

There is less property tax to pay on your house, since your living area decreases. There is less carpet to maintain, since most of it will be removed in the garage area. These are just a few of the advantages of the conversion. I'll be talking about more later.

The first step in the conversion is planning the approach into the den. In most cases this simply involves removing the picture windows and paving over an old flower bed. The less time maintaining the flowers, the more time you have to spend on your car! You will have to select a garage door to replace the windows. If space for an overhead type door is a problem, a steel door similar to storefronts in shopping centers may be used. Your house is now more secure, since you have decreased the number of windows a burglar could use. If I-beams are used to reinforce the walls, they can also be used as an engine hoist for major car projects.

With this part finished, you may want to add more lighting. A bathroom type of light fixture has the advantage of having an exhaust fan built in. If the kitchen is nearby, the stove exhaust fan can be used also. There should already be electricity for the battery charger and plenty of air conditioning. A word of caution though: don't install a lift unless you have a tall ceiling or a two story house. Details on modifying the upstairs room for this will be in another article.

There are so many advantages for this conversion, I am surprised that they have not been pointed out before. The indoor environment is very good protection for the car. You never have to start out from home in a hot car in the summer. Once in the house, the car can be used in ways not thought of before. You can roll down the window and play the radio for family entertainment instead of buying an expensive stereo system. By placing a TV on the hood, you can watch the movie "drive-in" style. If you get carried away with your sweetheart, you will be thankful you are in the privacy of your home. When the power is out in the neighborhood, turn on the headlights. Want to get the kids out of bed in the morning? Use the horn!

You do not need to worry about a nagging wife when the car is in the den. She will have left long before the construction has been completed!!

COURTESY STEVE SCHMIDT - PORSCHE 356 CAR



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LETS CRUISE !!

• WHAT DINNER CRUISE

• WHEN SATURDAY OCT. 1ST

• MEET AT 4:00

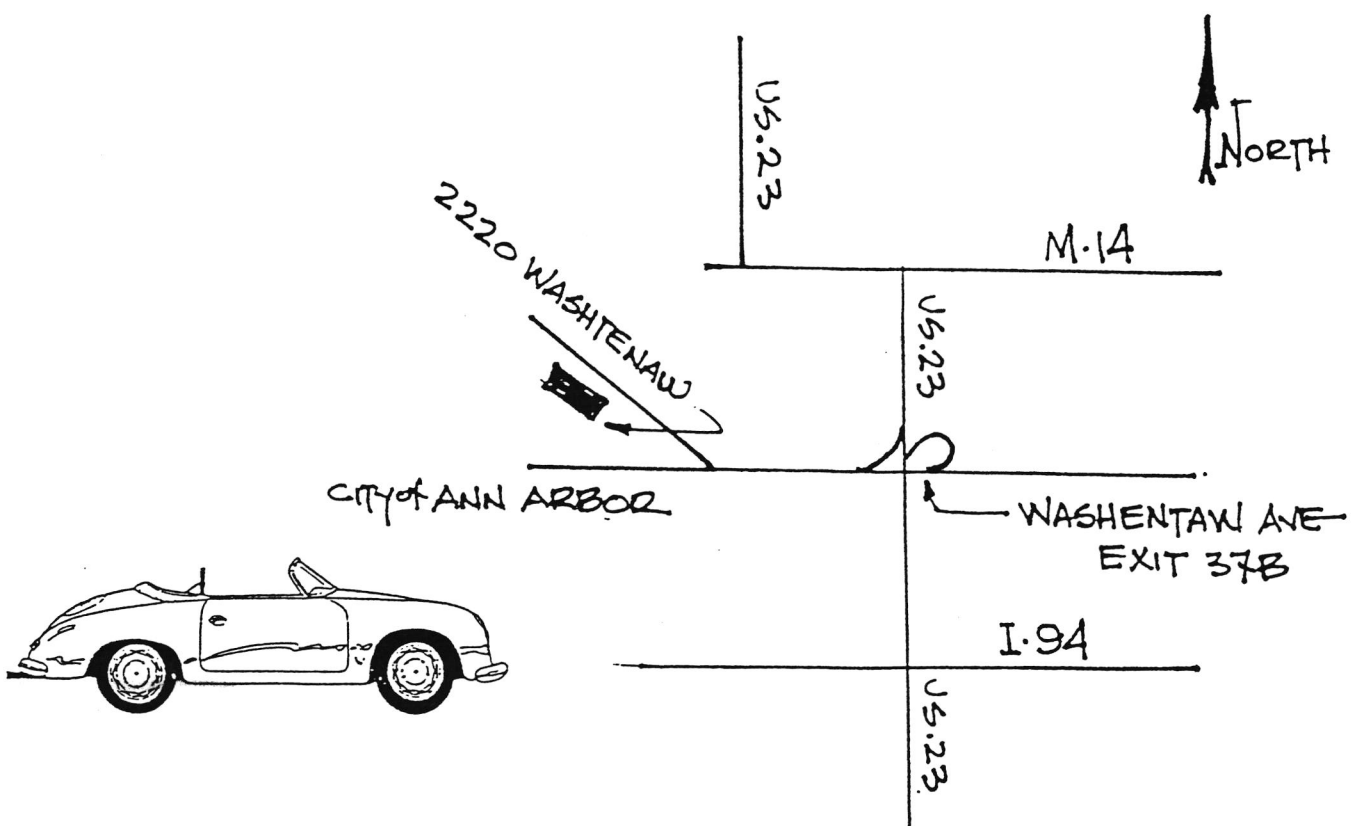
• LEAVE AT 4:30 SHARP



• WHERE ... AT THE HOME OF SEBASTIAN & NARMEEN GAETA
2220 WASHTENAW - ANN ARBOR

• WE'LL CRUISE SOME NICE COUNTRY ROADS
BEFORE FINISHING UP IN CHELSEA AT
CLEARY'S PUB FOR A RELAXING EVENING OF
FOOD, DRINK, AND TALL TALES !!

• RSVP: SEBASTIAN (H) 313.662.4288 or (W) 313.482.7133



FALL COLOR TOUR

Sat. & Sun. October 22 & 23 (dinner/overnite/Sun. optional).

Saturday, Oct. 22, 9:00 AM, gather at Ventura Properties, 17800 Newburg Road, (N of 6 Mile, across from Laurel Park Mall). First car out at 9:30. 1st cars will arrive about 11:00 for the lunch stop. At 1:00 PM, its on to Gilmore Auto Museum, arriving about 2 PM (1st cars). Cider and donut provided. At 5:00 PM, drive to Gull Lake Cafe for an excellent buffet dinner. We will overnight at Fairfield Inn, 3800 E. Cork St., Kalamazoo, (616) 344-8300. Sun. morning, we will brunch at the Bravo! Restorante, at 11:00 AM and then to the Kalamazoo Aviation History Museum at 12:00 PM.

The Director of Gilmore museum Mr. Thomas Kayser, former SMR member, has asked to have S.W. Mich. region, his current club, join us for this event. A Corvette club will also be at Gilmore Farms that day. Please come join in the adventure, for any or all of the week-ends events.

You MUST 1st call and make your room reservation, they are holding 29 doubles and 31 kings, until Oct. 8 (if you are going to Germany, call prior). Mention that you are with the Porsche Club to get the special rate of \$42.25 + tax. Then call Lanita to confirm parts of tour you want to participate in.

Rates: Sat. - Turkeyville (Lunch) (line prices) Approx. \$4-6 each.

* Sat. - Gilmore Museum Special rate \$ 4.00 each.

* Sat. - Gull Lake Cafe Special rate \$22.00 each inclusive. Cash Bar.

Sat. - Fairfield Inn Special rate 42.25.

* Sun. - Bravo! Restorante- Champagne Brunch \$16.00 inclusive.

* Sun. - Kalamazoo Aviation Museum Special rate \$4.00 each.

* Will be collected at start of tour, by Lanita (if you are signed up for).

Contact: Lanita Dunham (313) 464-1728 before Oct.1 (gone to Germany Oct 1-8).
(I need to finalize all reservations by Oct. 9.)

YOU MUST RSVP FOR ANY OR ALL OF THIS EVENT!



Special Thanks to:

All the people that helped out at the Mid-Ohio BBQ during Barb Skirmants absent.

Dick & Nancy Nettleow for the July Mystery Rally to Burt Davis' Cottage.

Barbara & Dave Peterson for the Summer Picnic

TURN OFF THE GAS ON YOUR 356

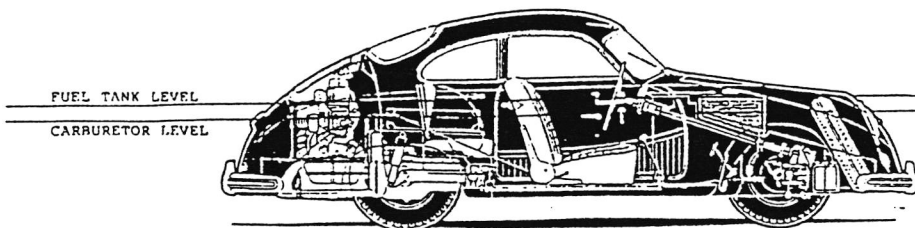
By Greg Young
(PORSCHE 356 CAR
NEWSLETTER)

A few weeks ago we prepared our 356 for Spring, including filling the gas tank. Today it was 80 degrees and you could see Hawaii if you squinted - just the type of day we were prepared for.

After turning the key, the engine spun about one quarter turn and went C-L-U-N-K and stopped abruptly as though a piston had hit something. We knew what was wrong since we have had the same problem before.

Although the 356 approaches perfection, it does have a few minor design flaws. One of these few flaws is that the top of the gas tank is higher than the top of the float bowl on the carburetors. Note the height of the gas tank in relation to the height of the top of the carburetors on the diagram which accompanies this article. If you fill the gas tank to the brim and the needle valve in one of the carburetors does not seat perfectly, gravity will fill the cylinders on that side of the engine with gasoline while the car sits. When you try to start the engine, the gasoline will not compress and will prevent the piston from traveling to the top of its stroke causing a C-L-U-N-K and the engine will stop abruptly.

If this happens to you, do NOT roll the car forward in gear to turn it over. All you will do is bend a connecting rod, which is guaranteed to ruin your whole day. Several people have suggested that you can remove the gasoline by rolling the car backward to open an intake or exhaust valve. Although I have tried this method and it worked, make sure that you do not



force the engine and bend a connecting rod. The time tested and guaranteed solution is to remove the spark plugs and turn the motor over a number of times with no compression to pump the gasoline out the spark plug holes. After the plugs are reinstalled, the engine will start right up. You should consider changing the oil to remove any gasoline contamination.

Avoiding this problem is simple. All you have to do is turn off the gas shut off valve under the dash every time you park your car - a detail which I had overlooked after filling the tank a few weeks ago. Just turn the black lever under the center of the dash to "ZU" which means "off" in German. It is a great anti-theft device, and it will keep you from filling your engine with gasoline if you let it sit with a full tank.

Several articles on storing your 356 suggest that you fill your tank before long term storage to reduce condensation in the gas tank. If you do so, make sure you also turn off the gas under the dash.

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SPLIT-WINDSCREEN 356 REGISTER FORMED

Owners of these very early Porsches (built before May 1952) will be interested to know that a Register has been established to record the details of the few cars that still survive. This is not the first such register to be formed, but this one seems to be off to a good start with a high level of interest and a large number of cars already on the list.

Tom Birch (in California) and Phillip Schudmak (in Melbourne, Australia), together with several other enthusiasts in the USA and Europe, have so far collected details of more than 130 cars which are now cataloged into the Register. This is probably about half of the cars that still exist, although they would be happy to be proved wrong on that point!

At this stage the Register will concentrate on the cars made in Stuttgart as the Gmund folk seem to be well looked after already.

The purpose of the Register is to record the number, location and condition of these cars. There is no charge to be on the register and there is no social or commercial objective.

A copy of the list will only be sent to owners who provide details of their cars. We expect to send the first list to contributors in September, 1994. If there is sufficient interest, a parts/information/help/swap list could also be circulated from time to time. Again this would be on a non-commercial basis and would only be sent to contributors.

Participation is welcomed from all 356 split-windscreen owners.

please contact	OR:	OR:
Thomas Birch, 4736 West Melric Dr., Santa Ana, CA 92704-1148, USA	Phillip Schudmak, P.O. Box 7356, Melbourne, Vic., 3004, AUSTRALIA	Henner Lembeck, Postbus 356, NL-5060 Oisterwijk, NETHERLANDS
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