

# SAGE TICK

Oktoberfest 2018



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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SILVER SAGE REGION OF THE PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

**JOHN SOMMERWERCK, SILVER SAGE PRESIDENT**



As you read this column, balloting should be over and new Silver Sage Board of Directors will have been installed. I would like to thank the membership for their support over the last two years. While the driving season is over for some of us, we have several great events coming up.

I hope you will attend the Board of Directors meetings (held on the first Wednesday of the month at Porsche of Boise), contribute new ideas and volunteer to assist with the events for next year.

Our thanks to Linda Prusynski for the Diva Drive. Linda is promising to make this an annual event.

Gary Cuddeford, Liam Spencer and a band of stalwarts once again made the Silver Sage Oktoberfest an outstanding event. Check out the article later in this issue.

The Charity Auction was on Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Well, Molly and her team hit it out of the park again! The November auction netted a new record amount raised; see the article, which has the details later in this issue.

The last big event for the year was our Christmas Party and Awards Banquet, which will have been held on Saturday, Dec 1st at the Arid Club. There will have been a great meal, dancing, and the region officers for 2019 will

have been elected and installed. If you went, you know what a great time was had by all.

2019 will start off with some great events. Our annual New Member dinner will be on January 12<sup>th</sup> – come out and meet & greet our new members. Jeff Fergot has developed a series of three Tech Sessions which should stimulate our thinking. Carole Flatter is again working on the next iteration of The Spring Fling.

In parting, I would like to express my thanks to the Silver Sagers that helped me over the last two years. First, I thank my fellow board members for their service and dedication. I thank those who stepped up: Frank Heinrichs – Sage Tick, Randall

Shane – webmaster, Robert Sturgeon – membership, Ken Robinson – member communications, and John Andrews – DE. I must also thank those who continued in their roles; Chris Beeson – insurance, Walt Gammill – tour leader extraordinaire, Molly Cuddeford – Charity, Gary Cuddeford – Oktoberfest. Bob Pentecost – Constant Contact, Dave Keim & Jim Parkinson – Coffee and Porsches. I know I am forgetting some – my apologies.

Remembering, it's not just the cars, it's the people. Volunteers make our club successful.❖





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As this issue of the Tick is being published we are full swing into the holiday season. May you have a joyous time with family and friends!

The cover photo for this issue was graciously shot and provided by **Zach Cicero** and PT Media. You can find him on FaceBook under PT Media and he also posted this shot and more on the Silver Sage FaceBook page. Thank you **Zach** for a great cover shot.

We would not have this newsletter without the commitment of so many of our membership that have attended each of the events. Then having some of these loyal folks using their talents to share their experiences with us. They each give a small glimpse of what these events were and how they each view the contribution of the Silver Sage board and all those that

organize and manage each event. For all of the articles in this quarters Sage Tick I want to send a Thank You to **Sid Cannon, Michael & Judy Feiler, Walt Gammill, Ernie Monroe, Linda Prusynski!**

I also want to give my whole hearted app reaction and thanks to **John Sommerwerck** and **Walt Thode**. Without their support I might not have actually been considered or even accepted this position. These issues of the Tick have come together because of their diligence in finding articles and connecting with everyone to get them submitted. Thank you gentlemen for everything you have done for our club.

Every day is an adventure! Where are you going? ❖

## **WINE CRUSH TOUR – OCTOBERFAST 2018**

*(Michael & Judy Feiler)*

Porsches, Pentecost's, Wine. Sound familiar? Yep, it is the Octoberfast Wine Crush Tour hosted by Bob and Vicki Pentecost. This was our first Wine Crush Tour and we wouldn't have missed it for anything. Normally we would have opted for one of the regular "Kaffe und Auto" rides. However, after attending last springs Tri City Wine Tour, also hosted by Bob and Vicki, and having an absolute ball, we obviously chose the Wine Crush Tour for our prelude to Sundays car show. The tour was capped at 25 cars comprising a mixture of many past tour participants and some welcome "newbies."

Vicki and Bob split the duties for this years tour with Vicki handling the logistics (pre-ride coffee and pastries, route planning, destination winery selection, lunches, etc.) and Bob handling the weather...hmmm...nice job Vicki!

After fueling up on coffee and pastries, we departed Porsche of Boise promptly at 9:30 AM

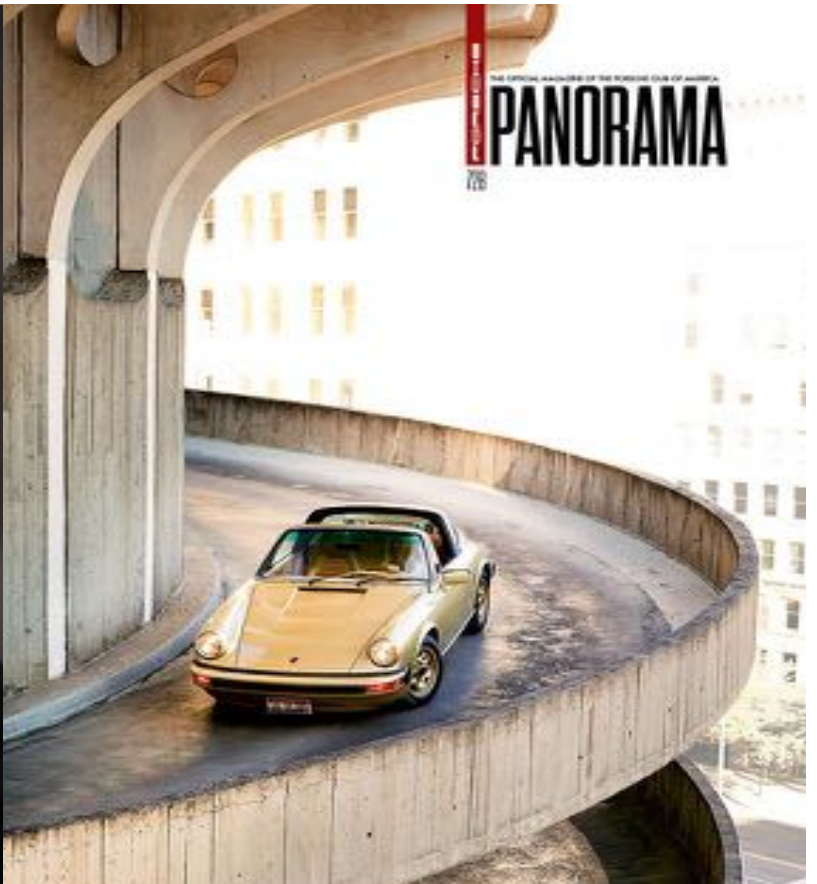
and "snaked" our way (excuse the pun) toward the Snake River Valley Wine Region encountering sporadic showers along the way. After a slightly damp but spirited ride we arrived at Fujishin Family Cellars for our interim stop. This was a particularly great stop for us. We had done our homework ahead of time, and being fans of Tempranillo, we were eager to try this rather rare, for the region, red wine. It certainly did not disappoint. For those who like Pinot Noir, we would urge you to explore the Tempranillo grape. Its a little less "creamy" yet still low on tannins. We were equally excited to sample the Bourbon Barrel Chardonnay. Yes, you read that right, Chardonnay aged in old bourbon barrels. Alas, the vintner was not offering this limited addition vintage for tasting. After some heavy persuasion, he agreed to uncork a bottle. Well, it was an immediate hit with us and others as well. We paired our tastings with a cheese and meat selection, again



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# WINE CRUSH TOUR – OCTOBERFAST 2018

*(Michael & Judy Feiler)*

supplied by Bob and Vicki that simply capped the whole experience. The staff at Fujishin was well prepared for our group; they were attentive, knowledgeable and quite welcoming. Truly a great experience. We made our purchases and prepared to depart for our ultimate destination lunch stop.

Departing Fujishin, we ran into Bill and Carole Betts and noticed that they too had purchased a couple bottles of the Bourbon Barrel Chardonnay. See, we told you the wine was a great hit and we're sure the vintner was glad he ultimately uncorked a bottle for tasting. Well, next stop Koenig Cellars.

The ride to Koenig Cellars was very short, didn't even get the 911 up to temperature. We were almost stunned when we drove up the tree-lined entrance. We last visited Koenig when we relocated to the Treasure Valley in early 1999. Wow! What a difference time makes. From a rather small unimpressive winery before, Koenig has been transformed into a facility that equals many of the wineries we have visited in Napa/Sonoma/Tri Cities. The grounds are beautiful, open and airy with substantial and inviting seating either inside or on the large outdoor patio. On a regular basis, they offer a fairly extensive Charcuterie of cheeses, meats and fresh breads to pair with your wines. However, on this occasion that wasn't necessary as Bob and Vicki had our select lunches from Zuppa awaiting our arrival. Once again, true Pentecost planning and execution; everything in order, well organized and presented. We paired our lunches with a delightful chardonnay and settled back to enjoy the ambiance. Many Silver Sager's opted for lunching alfresco on the beautiful patio. Apparently Bob had a talk with "the man upstairs" and asked for redeeming salvation regarding the weather, and it worked. After finishing lunch and saying our thank you to Bob and Vicki, we jumped in the car and, while

we really wanted to continue on to additional wineries, we needed to speed home to completely prep the car for Sunday's gala. Perhaps it was best we eschewed any further winery stops after finishing off our entire bottle at Koenig. One of the nicest things about a 991.2 is the Apple Car Play imbedded in the car. We simply asked Siri to take us home and she willingly obliged. Great feature for those who might enjoy over-imbibing.

In summary this was a wonderful and even eye-opening tour for us and we're sure many others. The region has added numerous new wineries offering interesting sundry varietals to entice any aspiring oenophile. For those repeat "Crushers" we're sure you'll sign up for next year's tour. For those who might be contemplating adding the Wine Crush Tour to their itinerary next year, you won't be disappointed; thoughtfully planned, great wineries, and wonderful camaraderie. I'm sure we speak for the entire club when we urge our newest members to join in. We'd love to get to know you and introduce you to the myriad activities offered with your membership.

Lastly, a special call out to Mary and Ernie Monroe. We noted that Mary and Ernie enjoyed split activities for the day. Ernie, not being much of a wine drinker, and favoring scotch, instead chose to lead one of the Kaffe und Auto tours while Mary hitched a ride and joined in on the Wine Crush Tour. Remember the Bourbon Barrel Aged Chardonnay at Fujishin? Well, we have it from a reliable unnamed source that Mary lobbied the vintner to consider aging next year's vintage in discarded scotch barrels...look forward to seeing you at next year's tour Ernie.

Again, a hearty thank you to Vicki and Bob Pentecost. ♦

# 2018 BANFF TRIFFEN HOTEL TOUR

(Sid Cannon)

I'll leave the story about the weather that greeted Silver Sagers during Banff Treffen for someone else to tell. This story is about the historic Banff Springs Fairmont Hotel. Since we didn't travel to Banff to experience winter weather Vicki and I decided to take a day and explore the hotel. During our self-guided tour we discovered an alcove that was dedicated to historic photos, most during the 1930s-1940s era. Since several of the locations were also going to be venues for Treffen social events, we decided to make a few "then and now" comparisons.



## Outdoor Terrace 1930s

The majestic Bow River Valley with lady tourists in their finest wool suits and hats while men look snappy in their nickers.



## Outdoor Terrace 2018

The same view with a light dusting of new fallen snow.  
You might be able to pick out a couple with the man wearing a plastic poncho and a lady her Kirkland jacket.  
Comfort is in and style is out.



## Cascade Ballroom 1940s

A twelve piece Big Band possibly playing a Glenn Miller song as guests do the foxtrot on a hardwood floor. Gentlemen in the white dinner jackets and ladies in their finest evening gowns, of course. Look closely and you may spot a pencil thin mustache.



## Cascade Ballroom 2018

Champagne is out, beer is in. Caviar is out and BBQ is in.  
Cowboy duds are the fashion and the music of choice is an all-girl fiddle group from Calgary.





### **Spanish Walkway 1930s**

An empty room with Persian rugs and heavy furniture give few clues as to the era. Maybe the lights are gas not electric.

### **Spanish Walkway 2018**

PCAers line up for dinner buffet-style in their finest casual wear to enjoy brisket, cornbread and baked beans. A buffet like this in the 1930s? Probably not.



### **Alhambra Room Foyer 1930s**

A sophisticated couple have a private conversation as he leans on the WOOD fireplace with the Santa Maria overhead. What are they discussing? The governor of New York who has just become president? The newly discovered planet that will be named after and Disney dog?

### **Alhambra Room Foyer 2018**

With an updated Santa Maria over an ELECTRIC fireplace, an equally sophisticated couple enjoy the same location eighty years later. A black tuxedo and Florsheim shoes give way to Levis and Nikes. And what are they discussing? Probably the same thing...the new president from New York and the planet that is now an astroid.



In summary...

Do I miss champagne, caviar, wool underwear, a tight fitting collar, a horsehair mattress and a pencil thin mustache? Not for a minute! Do I miss the sound of Big Band...definitely. ♦

# ANNUAL SILVER SAGE CHARITY AUCTION

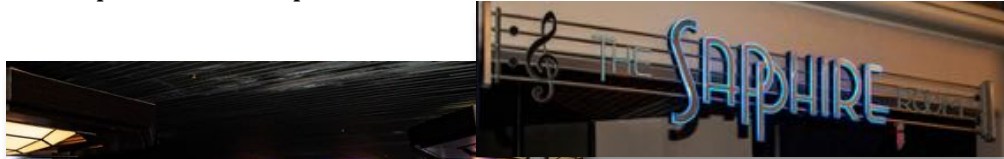
(Walt Gammill)

On Friday, November 2nd, about 80 generous Silver Sagers gathered in the Sapphire Room at the Riverside Hotel for the annual Silver Sage Charity Auction in support of this years chosen charity, Feed the Gap. Feed the Gap is the only organization in Idaho providing food for hungry children who do not qualify for free and reduced meals in their school cafeterias. Their families have too much income to qualify for subsidies, but not enough to adequately cover these meal expenses, so that often these children go hungry at school. Silver Sage was determined to see that these kids are properly fed, and so here we were, looking forward to having some fun, acquiring some delightful if marginally necessary merchandise, and FEEDING THE GAP!

After gathering around the bar for appropriate libations and greeting friends, the attendees browsed through an array of silent auction items artfully arranged by Chairwoman Molly Cuddeford and her able allies. The tables were full of tempting articles generously donated by Region members, including baskets of chocolates, model cars, Porsche

apparel, wine selections, books, art work, sportswear, posters, and on and on.

The Sapphire Room, the facility generously



donated by the management of the Riverside, was nicely set for dinner. After an hour or so of spirited bidding on the various items, with members cruising the tables checking on their bids and upping them as others tried to best them, dinner was announced and everyone found their way through the buffet line, joined friends at the many tables and enjoyed a great meal. As dessert was arriving, Molly announced the silent auction would be closing in a few minutes,

resulting in the usual scramble as folks checked their bids, threw a few good-natured elbows, and made a last

attempt to corral that special item.

The silent auction was called to a halt, and we settled in for the live auction. Bidding was



handled ably and with humor by Gary Cuddeford, assisted by a motley crew sporting kitchen hair nets in keeping with the food-related theme.

Successful bidders were given the mandatory opportunity to wear one of these nets in celebration. Bidding was spirited to say the least. Two weekends each at two different cabins went for record amounts, and an

autographed print of George Follmer in a 917 at Laguna Seca drew top dollar, as did a hotel stay in New York. When the dust settled and Rob

Grover had added up the totals of all the silent and live auction bids, we had raised over \$24,000 for Feed the Gap!



This is the largest amount Silver Sage has ever raised at auction, but it seems we manage to top our previous effort nearly every year. Perhaps we can add another PCA National Service Award to the several we have already won. Thanks are due to the hard working Charity committee led by Molly and to all the

generous members of Silver Sage. We have shown once again it really is not just the cars, it's the people! ♦

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# CHARITY FUND RAISING RAFFLE – OCTOBERFAST 2018

(Michael & Judy Feiler)

It was our privilege to assist with the fund raising raffle at Sundays car show gala during Octoberfast. Molly solicited our participation and we eagerly accepted the invitation. This was our second full year as Silver Sagers and we felt it was indeed time for us to help with some of the heavy lifting activities to support our club. Well, “heavy” might be stretching it a bit as we’re two of the smallest members. Let’s just say we did some lifting.

Actually, we made a complete day of it. In the morning, we worked as spotters for the 991 contingent. No bumps, bruises, or scratches so our guess is we did a pretty good job. We’re talking about the cars, not us (we know what’s important). If we are called upon to assist with this next year, we’re putting in our request early for 36 short yellow traffic vests. Got that Jeff?

Timing was perfect for our fund raising shift. We started early afternoon and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. It gives you a good feeling to know you’re contributing to a worthwhile charity such as Feed the Gap and the side benefits were equally great; conversing with fellow Silver Sagers as they filled out their raffle tickets, cajoling them into digging deeper in their pockets to purchase additional tickets, and assuring each and every one that they were destined to win...”we

promise.” Our shift only lasted an hour and while we sold quite a few tickets, it was nothing like what Leigh and her grandson accomplished. They went out on a walking tour to “work the crowd” and when they returned to the booth they were dripping in greenbacks. Perhaps food-for-thought for next year.

Between our raffle shift and the awards presentation we had just enough time to head

to the Yard House for a libation. Actually it seemed to turn into lunch as the Bloody Marys were served with a fine selection of fruits and veggies (lime wedge, asparagus spear, and pickle), a small

bacon raft across the rims and topped off with half a hard-boiled egg. We think it has something to do with the Food Pyramid.

To conclude, while our

entire Sunday Octoberfast experience was great, the best and most rewarding part was helping with the charity fund raising activities. When the final check is presented to Feed the Gap, we’ll know that we had a small part in making that a reality. What better feeling can one have?

Yes, Molly...count us in for next year. ❖



# OKTOBERFAST 2018

(Ernie Monroe)

Oktoberfest has become the signature, multi-day, multi-region event for the Silver Sage Region. (R.I.P. BBB!) Its popularity and participation continues to impress, thanks primarily to the efforts of all the participants, sponsors, volunteers, and our esteemed chairmen, Liam Spencer and Gary Cuddeford. Our venues — local wineries, Highways 21 and 55, Big Al's and of course, our show host, The Village at Meridian, also contribute to Oktoberfest's success. Porsche of Boise's support at the Kick-off Dinner, Saturday drives and Sunday show has also been outstanding. As a weekend long event, we are honored to have celebrity speakers, guests from several regions, and excellent PCA participation.

## A TASTE OF THINGS TO COME.

Festivities begin on Friday night with a welcome dinner at Big Al's in Meridian. Pat Clifford has



been our chair for this dinner for the past three years and had been supported on the A/V side by Blair

Baertsch. The two

of them have made this event better every year and with the change to Friday night from Saturday night it really works well as the “kick-off”.

This year almost 80 PCA'ers and their guests attended. Mingling, wine, beer, and buffet dinner is the milieu for people to get reacquainted, make new friends and visit with old ones. Gary Cuddeford introduces the event and highlights the weekend's activities and thanks all the volunteers, Big Al's, the Village at Meridian and Porsche of Boise.

We had a great turn out from the Porsche of Boise crew with the attendance of Eddie and

Melissa Rediske, Jeff and Molly Woody, Shaun and Amy Ferguson and Greg Myers.



Glass and

Guests also included representatives from our charity “Feed the Gap”... Anne Mitch Lee.



They talked about the charity and what it does to help feed the children of the working poor in our school system.



Again this year we were blessed with the legend himself... George Follmer and his wife Christie. George is an icon in the racing world

and we are so lucky that his lives here and doesn't mind hanging out with us Porsche enthusiasts.

## A DRIVE IN THE WOODS.

Saturday offers a couple of Oktoberfest options: Coffee and Cars for drivers, and a Wine Tour for drinkers. Meeting early at Lyle Pearson's Porsche dealership, drivers collect for a pre-run driver's meeting and of course coffee and donuts (maybe a banana or apple - I go for the donuts). Approximately 31 Porsches head out for the drive to Idaho City. That unique Porsche exhaust sound announces our arrival around corners and up canyons. Drivers connect with their vehicles. Locals get a change of scenery from their 4X4's.

At our first stop in Idaho City we lose a few people to the Boise State football game. Others proceed to Morse Creek Summit only to hot foot it back for the Bronco kickoff. The rest of us continued on to Lowman for a short break and photo ops, and then over to Crouch for an early,



and excellent lunch, at the Two River's Restaurant. Again, we lost a few drivers at the Crouch turnoff, but I heard nothing but compliments on the drive and it seemed everyone enjoyed the roads, the scenery, and their vehicles. Many thanks to Jim Parkinson and Dave Keim for organizing the Oktoberfest Coffee and Cars (and all C&C events).

### OKTOBERFAST UNCORKED.

Wine tourers also met at Lyle Pearson's and also got donuts and coffee for the drive to Sunny Slope winery region outside Caldwell in the capable hands of Vicki and Bob Pentecost. Registration was capped at 50 (25 cars) so that the wineries could manage the group. I'm sure some fun roads were part of the drive. Fujishin Family Cellars was the first destination. Fujishin was named "2018 Winery of the Year" and because of our groups' excellent behavior, we've been invited back for next year (register early). The second winery was Koenig. Greg Koenig is a significant Idaho winemaker. Pre-ordered box lunches were delivered by Zupa's. While some ate on the patio terrace overlooking the vineyards, our serious wine tourers huddled inside for extra wine tasting (and to join the club). No prizes were awarded for wine tasting, but that didn't diminish the enthusiasm of our intrepid tourers. I wasn't there, but my wife Mary made it home with several bottles of the region's finest. I'm pretty sure everyone else did also.

### THE MAIN EVENT

Of course, the weekend's main event is the Porsche Car Show held at the picturesque streets of The Village at Meridian. That means prior to the event; elbow grease, wax, polish, and speed shine has been meticulously applied to over 115



beautiful Porsches (maybe a couple went through the car wash, but that still counts). Volunteers arrive early to stage the membership, charity and registration tents. Much to do to

check people in and arrange Porsches by year and model and make sure all is ready for the days' activities.

Highlights of this year's show included Dallen and Brenda Schenk's rare, crowd-pleasing and category winning, 1958 Porsche tractor (Guards Red?) and Liam Spencer's Porsche powered Harley V-Rod. For me, Bob Shillington's ultra-rare (one of 161 street legal 993 GT2's worldwide) 1996 993 GT2 - voted Best of Show - and his even rarer (one of 20 cars worldwide) Amethyst painted, 1993 964 RS - 'George Follmer's Pick' award winner — created for a Macau racing series that never came to pass were especially exciting to see.

The weather was great, the venue is special, with shopping, coffee cafes, and plenty of lunch spots. The cars were expertly displayed and organized by category. Lyle Pearson's



exceptional staff displayed several new Porsches and manned a booth with 70th Porsche Anniversary shirts, posters and hats. The 'FEED THE GAP' folks, our charity for 2018, were there to see the cars, meet members and explain their mission. After everyone had a chance to vote on their favorite cars in each category, door prizes were distributed and the winning cars were announced. George Follmer announced his "George's Pick," Bob Shillington's '93 Carrera 964 RS. See the results in the chart below.

In reality, there were no losers, as everyone's car looked great and received a good detailing before the winter months arrive. The public got a sense of our Porsche pride of ownership. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped out, to the organizers and sponsors, and to The Village at Meridian. The only thing that could beat this year's 2018 Oktoberfest will be next year's. We'll look forward to seeing everyone again next year. Now who's going to step up

# OKTOBERFAST 2018 RESULTS

(Ernie Monroe)

Class	Car #	Color	Year	Model	Owner
A	91	Ruby Red	1963	356 Super	Andrew King
B	52	Contact Orange	1978	911	Wade Nelson
C	82	Blood Orange	1968	911 Targa	Jonas Dethman
D	77	Polar Silver	1996	GT2	Bob Shillington
E	97	Carrera White	2005	911 Turbo	Jeff Fergot
F	46	Cream	2010	Carrera S	Mike Pratt
G	44	Guard's Red	2013	Carrera S	Ernie Monroe
H	69	Guard's Red	1986	944 Turbo	Phillip Maier
I	2	Guard's Red	2002	Boxster	Frank Rice
J	100	GT Silver	2016	Spyder	Kelly Gay
K	101	White	2016	GT4	Chris Johnson
L	40	Carmine Red	2014	Panamera GTS	Wayne Newton
M	32	Red	1958	108K Tractor	Dallan Schenk
BOS	77	Polar Silver	1996	911 GT2	Bob Shillington
X	76	Amethyst	1993	964 RS	Bob Shillington



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## 2018 ANNUAL DIVA DRIVE

(Linda Prusynski)

The Third Annual Diva Drive (for the ladies of SSPCA) was held on Sat. Sept. 20th. There were 20 ladies in attendance, driving (or riding in) a variety of Porsche models. We met at 10:45 am, in the parking lot in front of the Eagle Winco and Home Depot. After a drivers meeting, we all jumped into our cars for the drive. As the 'leader' I made a very grave mistake—I forgot to mention, in the drivers meeting, which way we were going to leave the parking lot! I pulled over to the side of the parking lot exit, to await my little ducklings all getting in a row behind me. Alas—only half a dozen or so cars were behind me! Everyone was so eager to get going, that they followed a person in front of them, thinking that person surely was following the leader, and knew where they were going! Thank goodness for cell phones and texting—we were able to reach some of the other cars, and eventually everyone returned to the

parking lot and we were able to leave together (albeit 30 min. late).

Our destination was Parma Ridge Winery, in Parma. We drove about 40 miles of 'back roads' to get there, however, and we all managed to stay together! We passed lots of farms/ranches, fields, and even had a few good "Porsche Road" miles.

Once we got to the winery, we had two tables set up for us outside, under the large tent. They brought us wine glasses, and we tasted wine while the Bistro prepared our pre-ordered lunch entrees (there was a choice from six entrees). We had a great time visiting, tasting wine, and eating lunch. Carole Flatter provided two gift certificates from The Nest, as door prizes, which were won by two lucky ladies.

The Diva Drive will for sure be an annual event, as we ladies DO enjoy getting OUR turn to drive the Porsches! ♦



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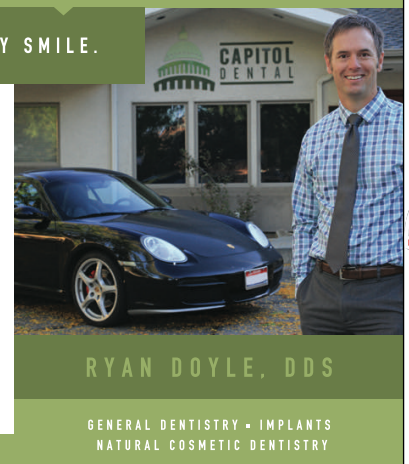
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# OKTOBERFAST 2018-HERE COME DA JUDGE

(Sid Cannon)

Gary Cuddeford asked me to be the Chief Judge/Vote Counter for Oktoberfast 2018.

I knew from watching previous judges that there was some stress involved but thought it sounded like a fun assignment.

Here's a brief history of Oktoberfast Judging. I remember Ernie Monroe talking about how judging duties were handled at the earliest Oktoberfast shows. There were real judges (Silver Sage Members that is), with real rules for the basis of judging. There were teams of judges with white lab coats, silk gloves and clipboards that were assigned to various classes. After going about their business they gave their results to the Chief Judge who announced the winners to the crowd.

One year, I think it was 2011, Oktoberfast was held on Grove Street right in front of Chandler's Steak House in downtown Boise. It was a splendid event with perfect weather and an over capacity turn out of Porsches and visitors.

There was a German Oompah band, Brats and hamburgers made from Chandlers ground up prime rib. What could be better? Vicki Cannon was a judge and was part of a team that was judging a particular class. Cars were spread out down the street and into an adjacent parking lot with no particular order to the parking. As it turned out each team had only a few minutes to find and scrutinize each car before they had to move on to the next one. I remember how stressed out Vicki was at the end of the day. The judges barely got done in time for the award ceremony.

In 2013 and 2014 Oktoberfast moved to Ling & Louie's Parking lot with Sid and Vicki serving as chairpersons. A brand new venue at a brand new

restaurant. More great food and the same Oompah band. Judging continued with the same format and everyone seemed happy except the poor judges who were worn out by the end of the day. What's the big deal I wondered?

2015 Oktoberfast moved to the Village at Meridian. I suppose because of the stressful nature of judging I was having difficulty finding enough judges. So, with the new move we decided to try a different approach. Participant judging would make it easy by placing the judging duties in the hands of the participants.

Steve Wiley volunteered to be the Chief Judge/Vote Counter. This is an easy job in my estimation.

Unload the ballot, count them up and read the results at the award ceremony.

During Oktoberfast 2016 and 2017 we followed the same format with the exception of adding a Concourse class for those who wanted their car judged by a team of "experts". Steve Wiley handled the duties and presented the results. Three years of an easy job....I thought.

In 2018 Steve was ready to retire from judging so Gary and Liam turned the duties over to me. Steve gave me with an Excel spreadsheet full of hidden formulas, links, lookup tables, charts, graphs and enough data for a presidential election. Everything was automatic. All I had to do was go down each ballot and put a check in the appropriate box on the spreadsheet. Then "POW" the winners popped up at the bottom. Nothing to it. Hand the results to Gary and I'm done.





In lieu of Steve's spreadsheet I decided on an organic analog approach. No computer for me. I made a paper spreadsheet eleven inches high by about twenty feet long. Classes down the left side, Ballot numbers across the top from left to right. All I had to do was put a check in a box, count them up left to right and determine the winners. I made several dry runs to make sure it worked. I timed myself to make sure how much time was required to get the job done by 4:00 Award Ceremony Deadline.

D-day approached and I was locked and loaded.

All ballots needed to be turned in by 2:00. Two hours to do the job. Plenty of time. Two o'clock arrived so I unlocked the ballot box, removed the ballots and sequestered myself in the front seat of my car to do my job. 110 cars but only 67 ballots cast. This should be a piece of cake.

My mental

preparation paid off.

Like clockwork I lined up each ballot with my master form and filled in the blanks. Now all I had to do was manually count the

votes in each class and I would be done. Right about then my phone rang. It was Gary. "Sid, it's 3:30 and we started the ceremony early. When are you going to be done?" "Five minutes" was my answer. Five minutes turned into twenty minutes. Gary called back with panic in his voice. Hmmm. The summation was taking longer than I calculated. The sweat started to run down my face as I thought of Gary on stage trying to stall the crowd. My hands got clammy as I envisioned him doing his best version of Al Jolson down on one knee singing "Swanee...How I loved ya...How I loved ya...". Maybe he was doing a Rodney Dangerfield routine about Molly. I hoped not

for Gary's sake. Gary is a funny guy with a lot of material so I knew he could hold the crowd. One time I thought I could hear the crowd chanting "WE WANT TROPHIES...WE WANT TROPHIES". It was probably just in my head. Then I thought of Vicki when she completed her judging duties in 2011. She was ready for a glass of wine...maybe the whole bottle. Then I thought of Steve Wiley and three years of solo judging duty. Now I know why he looked so stressed out and was mumbling something about selling his Porsche and buying a Corvette. I

thought of judges in Oktoberfest's past; Mike English, Bob Denton, Dennis Wonder, Chris Beeson, Lori Williams. Now I know why they all headed straight for the bar afterwards.

But back to reality and finally, the job was done. I rounded the corner and headed down the street at a brisk pace.

Ahead on stage I could faintly hear Gary telling a joke about a bunch of "doorknobs". Not sure what that meant but it worked. The crowd laughed.

When his eyes caught mine he had the same look as when Custer was saved by the cavalry. Wait, that never happened. Anyway, he looked very relieved.

So, what is the point of this history lesson on Oktoberfest judging? I learned this is a very stressful job that needs to be done in a timely manner with perfect execution. I'm working on another idea for next year. Somewhere between organic analog and Steve's Excel spreadsheet. It will be perfect. Easy to execute. No chance for a delay and most of all NO! ❖





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## CALENDAR

### December '18

Dec. 20: Porsche Cruise-in

### January '19

Jan. 2: Board Meeting

Jan. 12: New Members Dinner

Jan. 15: Porsche Cruise In

### February '19

Feb. 6: Board Meeting

Feb. 16: Tech Session

Feb. 16: February Fling

Feb. 19: Porsche Cruise-in

**Note:** Silver Sage Board Meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month, 6:30 pm at Porsche of Boise