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ADDRESS CHANGES Should be sent to the **MEMBERSHIP** Chairman at least one month prior to your move.

CLASSIFIED and **ARTICLES**. Ads are **FREE** to members, \$10 per issue to others. They are **NOT** automatically reprinted. Articles and/or pictures dealing with RTR events, Porsches, or topics of general interest are welcome. Those with letter quality (not dot matrix) printers or typewriters can submit them in columns of 3 1/4 X 10 otherwise, they should be typewritten between 200 and 800 words in length. Pictures should have good contrast and be 3 1/2 X 5, color or black and white. The deadline is the 1st of each month and can be given to the editors at the meeting or mailed to the address listed in the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**.

DER GASSER is the official publication of the **RIESENTOTER** region of the Porsche Club of America. Unless otherwise stated, comments and/or articles are those of the author and not necessarily those of PCA or Riesentoter.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, NEW YEAR, AUTOCROSS REVISITED, REISENTOTER AWARD, AND THE NOW FAMOUS HOLIDAY MENU SWITCH

By Bill O'Connell

Well here it is gang, another new year and as they say, better than ever. If all goes according to plan, we will have a busy year with enough varied events to give all of you a chance to do something with your Porsche. Aside from the normal meetings, track events, autocrosses, and social affairs, we are thinking of an additional full fledged concours event, a night at Malibu Raceway, and the second annual car wash (up for another, Larry?). If there is something you would like to see done, please contact a member of the Exec and if interest can be generated, it will be done.

As usual, we start the year in search of a good autocross site. The folks at the Sheraton felt it wasn't in their best interests to continue, so... If you know of a site, please contact Betsi. We had a great turnaround in attendance after Al's rousing "should we cancel autocross" opener last year so let's not lose it for want of a parking lot. Someone out there must have access to a lot where they work, and with our safety record plus the insurance and a little coaxing maybe, just maybe, they could be convinced to let us use it. Start looking now because spring really is just around the corner.

Vicki and I want to thank all of you for your great support last year and giving us the Reisentoter Award. We had no idea about it and we are truly honored. As I read the names of the past recipients since '59, it is the who's who of the region and to be included with this group is a great honor. Thanks again for making me look good with all your support.

As many of you know, the annual holiday affair went very well. As promised, to answer

many of your questions about the switch in menu, it goes something like this. Back in mid year when things were rolling along pretty good, Larry and Cheryl planned a gala event. Then some disaster struck - the Glen was called off due to repaving. This meant that a large club subsidy was not possible. This coupled with the fact that by mid November we only had about 20 people signed up called for some quick action. The Frog wanted a firm count soon and we couldn't afford to pay if we guessed high and were wrong. As we find is normal in this region, people were waiting to the last minute and the only feedback we were getting was that the price was too high. As a result, Bill and Deb Cooper found another source for the food who was much more flexible as far as time, included a 5 hour open bar, and reduced the amount the club had to chip in considerably. They presented it at the November Exec and thus the flyer that you received. As it turned out, the positive comments outweighed the negative by a huge margin so I guess the majority liked our new plan. Not to mention the fact that we were flooded with reservations and had to squeeze in extra tables to fit the overflow. I know some were not pleased with the new menu but the philosophy is that it is everyone's club and within reason, no one should be excluded from events, especially the holiday banquet which traditionally is the biggest of the year. You did a good job of telling us what you wanted and we attempted to respond. I'm glad that everyone that attended seemed to enjoy themselves and hope this year is at least as successful as last. Thanks again to Larry and Cheryl for doing the initial work, Bill and Deb for the last minute caterer, Paul for the fast work on the flyer, and everyone else that pitched in.

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AUTOCROSS SITE NEEDED!

The annual cry for an autocross site! As has happened in years gone by, the place we held our autocross is needed for Sunday parking by the lot owner and as such we are begging again. The Sheraton could not (would not?) renew our agreement this year because they couldn't insure that last years problems would not happen again. So do any of our members won a lot, or have one where they work, or know of one which is not used on Sundays? If so we need it. For those worried about safety, we have not had a problem as far back as I can remember nor have I heard of any that occurred. And we do have a sizeable insurance policy that would be used in the unlikely event that something did happen. The type of events we hold do not lend themselves to problems as the speeds are never very fast on our courses. Besides, nobody wants to trash their car at this level of autocrossing. It would be ashame not to have a season after the turnouts this last year. If you have or know of a place, give our Autocross, Betsi Marsh Leidy, a call at 855-0360. Come on folks, think - there must be a lot somewhere we can use 4 or 5 times this years.

MEETING PLACE NEEDED!

It seems that there has been a change in attitude about meeting rooms at the places that we normally held our meetings. In the past, some members eating dinner and the bar tab was enough for the place to let us use a room for the meeting. Now they want that and some cash as well. The problem with that is we run on a lean budget and spending what could be \$2,000 or more a year for meetings does not sit well with most of us. The suggestion the establishments had of charging admission to meetings is out of the question and holding them in smaller places that would limit attendance is also not very appealing so we are asking for help from the members at large. Do any of you know of or own a place that will hold 125+ (we are assuming this year will bring out at least as many of you as last). If it is a eating establishment, we can guarantee a reasonable turnout for the bar and some for dinner. If it is in an office type environment, we can limit the beverage to soda, and can rent chairs if needed. In other words, we will work with whomever. The Boston Sea Party was very pleased with our setup, unfortunately they closed. The first meeting will be at Paul Johnston's shop but we would rather not take advantage of his kindness so if you know a place please call Deb Cooper at 362-2770 and let her know.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Nicholas F. Spagnola
Ft. Washington, PA
'81-911SC

Dr. Ronn Jenkins
West Chester, PA
'74-911

Howard A. Bowers Jr.
West Chester, PA
'79-911SC

Robert & Bernadette Oliver
West Chester, PA
'87-930

Bill Richards
Pipersville, PA
'88-911

Miguel A. Sanchez
Philadelphia, PA
'76-914

Thomas J. Fox
Springfield, PA
72-Targa

Nicholas & Gina Maria Zammer
Havertown, PA
'78-Targa

J.A. & Lindsey Davis
Villanova, PA
'80-Targa

Robert C. Brown Jr. & Charlene
Easton, PA
'67-911S

Gary S. Figure & Connie
Allentown, PA
'80-911SC

John & Jeanette Collins
Landenberg, PA
'64-356

Bob & Erika Halderman
Harleysville, PA
'87-924S

Patrick & Jill O'Leary
Doylestown, PA
'86-911

James J. Yurasits
Allentown, PA
'59-356 Conv. D
'75-914
'71-911 Targa

John Tyler Sangston
Exton, PA
'86-911CAB

Stephen G. Buell
Bethlehem, PA
'87-911 Turbo

THE HOLIDAY BANQUET

The annual Holiday Banquet was a success. As usual, a lot of work was put forth by a few members. Bill and Deb Cooper and Larry and Cheryl Herman deserve our thanks. After all was said and done, I think everyone had a good time. The hall was set up very nice, the DJ played good music (sometimes a tad loud, but he knew where the volume was when asked), the food was just fine, and the mood was festive. Everything even went sort of like clockwork. There were prizes galore ranging from tee-shirts, umbrellas, hats, and jackets from Valvoline, posters from YBH, and the Grand Prize, a set of Bridgestones from Leitzinger Motorsports. Don Quay and some of the contingent from Reading thought they were on one of our famous rallies and spent hours finding the place. They arrived as we were getting ready to pass out the door prizes. Great timing on their part - they won the tires. Made the trek worthwhile.

We requested that the people that won the various awards write an article on how they got to win it. Hopefully they will respond and they will be printed in the next month or so. The winners are:

TATTERED HELMET AWARD: JOHN ROSENBLUM. This award is given to the person or persons that distinguish themselves in such a manner that they wish they had stayed home and watched TV that day. In other words, the person that makes the biggest fool of themselves in any area regarding their car. In short, John managed to win hands down with his various attempts to prove that his 911 is not an off road vehicle, trying to get it towed home from Bridgehampton with front end problems which turned out to be loose lug nuts, etc etc. He

is one that will tell you more later.

MIGHTY NITTO AWARD: JOHN WILLIAMSON. This is the "making the best of a bad situation" prize. John did two things to win this. 1st was receiving his doctorate from PCA after being without PANO or DER GASSER for months. The second has to do with an event in Bridgehampton and a cracked BBS wheel. More from "Dr" John next month.

HIGH SPEED DRIVING AWARD. DON COX. The most improved and/or enthusiastic person at the track events. This was a very competitive award this year and Don was a very good choice. He was in the parade from Reading and another that was glad they stuck it out and came anyhow.

BROKEN CRANKSHAFT, WILLIAM C. SCHMIDT AWARD. DAVE DONOHUE, a name that many of you recognize I'm sure. With the resurgence of Autocross there were many that fit the requirement, most improved novice, but Dave was a very good choice.

RIESENTOTER CUP, VICKI AND BILL O'CONNELL. This is the top award in Riensentoter and to quote the requirements: "Should be awarded to the best all around, enthusiastic, and giving member". The names on the bowl are much of the history of the club since 1958. Vicki and Bill won it for the work on the 30th, which actually started the year before, and all the work that went into the meetings which overall had the greatest attendance ever.

As the year goes on, keep these awards in mind and in the fall let members of the exec know if you have someone that you feel is deserving of one.



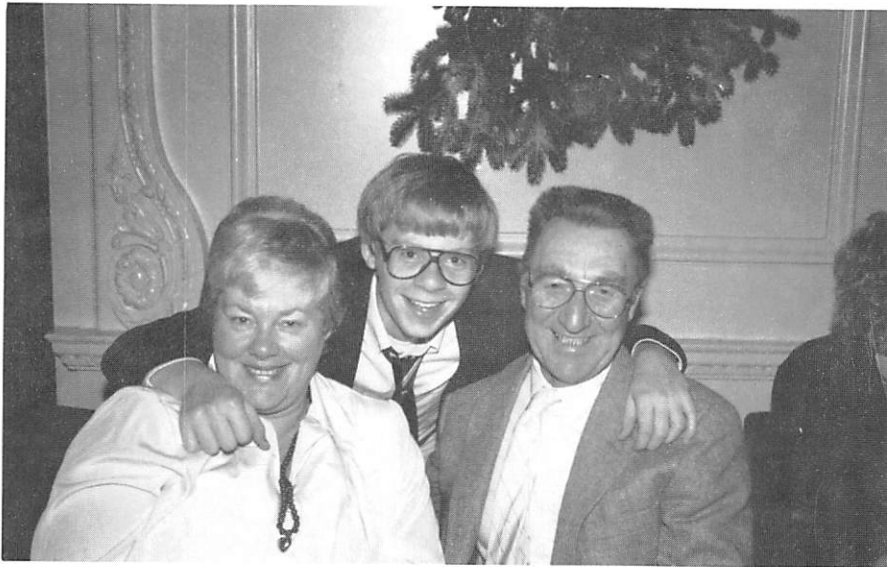
John Williams, Lisa Confer, Bill Cooper, Kathy Williamson and Debbie Cooper.



Bill presents Don Cox with the High Speed Driving Award.



Santa - Alias Ron Lego



The Sweigarts

Dave Donahue accepting the Broken Crank Shaft Award.



THE RIESENTOTOER AWARD

Vicki & Bill O'Connell

As mentioned in the President's message, we are honored to have been selected as the winners of this award. It came as a COMPLETE surprise to us, when Al announced it at the Holiday party. Al did a great job of hiding the cup prior to the dinner and had taped over our names to, as he said it, "keep the nosy people from finding out who won what". Well it worked so well that it didn't dawn on either of us at first when he announced it. It really made the work for the 30th seem worthwhile. Without trying to seem too humble,

we really did the work because we believe that to make the club function, some of us have to contribute a little extra sometimes. Those that have held various jobs in the club know what we mean. We felt that by taking the responsibility of running the 30th party, we were obligated to do yet an extra level because of the significance of a 3 day anniversary. As we have said before, we could not have done it without all the support we received from others and we mean it. We were very happy that everyone had such a good time, and thought that was reward enough. This was icing on the cake as they say. Again, thank you for your support last year. You made it easy to look good. And thank you very much for the award. It has a place of honor in our living room.

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DRIVERS EDUCATION WINTER PROGRAM SET

Saturday, February 13 will mark the return of the **Drivers Education Winter Program** to the Sheraton Tysons Hotel. For 1988 we will have an international cast of experts on hand... including, with thanks to Heishman Porsche, **Derek Bell**

The program will once again feature a special novice orientation to Drivers' Ed Potomac-style. This intro session will be handled by chief instructor, **Steve Schiff** and Drivers' Ed chairman, **T.R. Pierce**. Members who are new to the sport would definitely plan to arrive early and attend this excellent session.

Later in the morning, we will hear from **Mike Valentine**, the inventor of the G-Analyst. Prior to his work on this learning device for drivers, Mike was a founder of Cincinnati Microwave, the Passport and Escort company. Mike is a long-time member of PCA and an excellent speaker. You will enjoy and benefit from his discussion on the components of cornering and the difference the driver makes even if you have no plans to use the G-Analyst in your Porsche. Those of you lucky folks who found one of Mike's wonderful boxes under your Christmas tree, will learn everything you need to get the most from your new toy!

Five time LeMans winner, **Derek Bell** will be our featured speaker for the luncheon. Most of you have no doubt read the Panorama story done recently by Prescott Kelly on Derek so I know you realize what a special event this is.

In addition to LeMans, Derek has driven numerous "factory" rides in the WEC series and co-driven with Al Holbert in the IMSA series here in the United States. He won the 24 hours of Daytona in '84, '86, and '87. He has to be a favorite to repeat later this month in the Florida classic, but of even more interest for us, Derek has 10 IMSA GT wins at the same tracks we enjoy: Watkins Glen, Mid-Ohio, Pocono, and Charlotte.

Following Derek we have arranged for **Dick Turner** to join us from Dallas, Texas. Dick is nationally known for his high performance driving and autocross schools. If you have thought of trying autocross or wonder how it differs from track events, this is the session for you! If you drove every autocross in the series last year and wonder how Summit Point might feel, don't miss this presentation. Dick's experience at teaching will provide something to benefit everyone.

Our final presentation for the day will feature our friend, **Bob Strange** from BF Goodrich tires. Bob

helped us with the first Winter Program last year and received excellent marks for his presentations. In addition to a section on suspensions and alignments to get the most from your Porsche, Bob will discuss the latest "trick tires" available and how you might expect them to behave on the track.

When he is not testing tires or making commercial for BFG, Bob races Porsches in the SCCA showroom stock series. He qualified a 944 Turbo on the pole for the runoffs last October. As any of the people who rode with him at Potomac's Mid-Ohio event last May can attest, he is very good at what he does.

In addition to expanding the Winter Program to a full day, we have added another feature for 1988...a special vendor area!

This special room will be open all day, including the hour just before lunch when no other sessions are scheduled. **Bob Russo** from **Holbert Racing** has agreed to be there with his full line of helmets, suits and safety equipment. **Chuck Drake** will have the **Potomac Goody Store** in another corner with a full inventory of filters, brake pads, and other items you need to get ready for the March event. **Heishman Porsche** will be bringing the **Porsche Boutique Showroom** with all the 1988 clothing and accessories. These special items are usually only seen at the Porsche Parade each summer.

And we are working on more... Door prizes, special gifts and surprises.

This may be the best PCA program to be held in Washington since Potomac hosted the Parade almost 10 years ago! Mark your calendar: **Saturday, February 13, 1988**. Plan to arrive early and to spend the day. Use the form to register.

We have TWO special incentives to get you to send your check in early. First, seating at the luncheon, where Derek Bell will speak, will be assigned in the order of registrations received. Sign up early and get the best seats. Second, because we need to guaranty the number of people for lunch, the admission price for this event goes from \$20 per person to \$25 after 2/1/88.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please call Paul Weston at (703)-827-1803.

See you there!

Drivers Ed Winter Program - Registration Form

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ / _____ / _____

Phone _____ Home _____ Work _____

Do you plan to attend the Intro Session for Novices? _____

Please enclose \$20 per person (\$25 after 2/1/88) payable to:
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If you have any questions, please call (703) 860-3217.

SORRY, NO REFUNDS AFTER FEBRUARY 1.



Derek Bell

Tentative 1988 Track Events

These events are subject to change and more may be added. For more information on an event, contact the chairperson of the proper committee. For events not sponsored by RTR, contact the club holding the event. IT IS IMPORTANT that you respond early for all events, as many fill on the first day of registration.

Events at Watkins Glen, Summit Point, Lime Rock, etc. are all High Speed, and when sponsored by a PCA region, are classified as a High Speed Driving School.

All events are run by PCA regions unless marked with an "*".

Prior to RTR driving events, we will hold a tech session to check out your car. Watch for the time and place.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Place</u>
April 8, 9 Fri/Sat	RTR	Pocono
July 2, 3 Sat/Sun	RTR	Mid-Ohio
30, 31 Sat/Sun	RTR	Watkins Glen
Oct 8, 9 Sat/Sun	RTR	Summit Point



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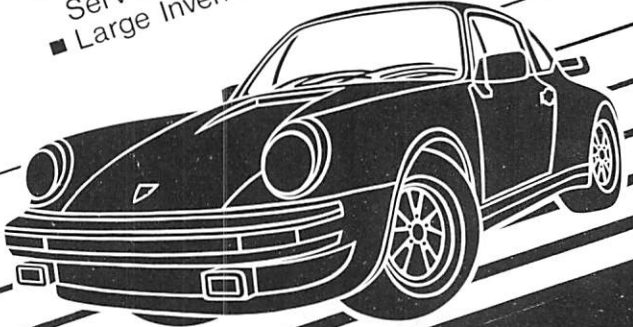
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1988 TRACK SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Start planning your year by marking your calendars for each of the four Reisetoter high speed driver education events planned for 1988. The year begins with a backyard warm-up event at Pocono International Raceway in Long Pond, PA on April 8 & 9, Friday and Saturday.

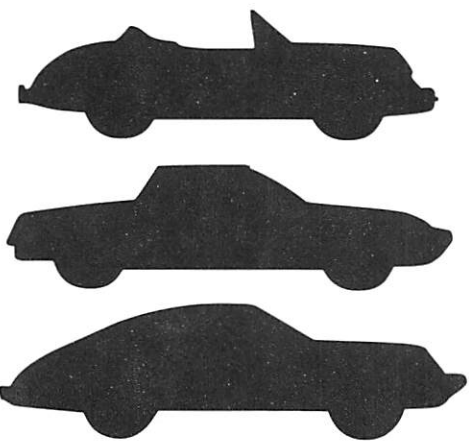
Then we have the big one on Fourth of July weekend at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course on July 2 & 3. Forget the beach. This is one of the most scenic and well maintained road courses in the country. Do not miss the opportunity to attend this event. This will be a great chance to meet people from other PCA regions since I expect attendees from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Kentucky to supplement our normal east coast diehards.

We give you a few weekends to change the oil, brake fluid, and brake pads, and we're off to Watkins Glen International for a July 30 and 31 weekend. Mid-summer is THE time to be at the Glen. This event should be filled on the first day of registration, so definitely send your application in the day registration opens.

The season finale will be held at Summit Point Raceway on the weekend of October 8 & 9. No blistering West Virginia heat and no snow. The track owner, Bill Scott, will be the guest speaker at one of our meetings this year. This should be another quick fill event because Summit Point is a very exciting and popular track.

I'll see you in April.


Jim Confer



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TRACK Q & A

Do Porsche owners really drive their cars on race tracks? Yes.

Are they sane? Maybe.

Do they enjoy it? Definitely.

How do you get started? Send in the application on the first day.

All right, you're not quite convinced. You wonder what you need to know or do to prepare for this new adventure. First, that darn application must be sent with an entry fee. The cost of the event varies depending on the cost and car capacity of the track (Pocono ain't cheap).

You will receive a package of information which includes a layout of the track facilities, motel accommodations, map of the area, a write-up of things to remember for novice drivers, and the very important tech form. The tech form must be completed by a Porsche dealership, recognized Porsche facility, or one of the clubs technical inspectors prior to the event. This inspection is required to insure that your car is in solid mechanical condition prior to your arrival at the track (our Safety person will be preparing a more complete explanation). Still, the person with the primary responsibility for the mechanical condition of your car is you. You also need to invest in a good helmet (Snell 80 or later approval sticker required) if you don't already have one.

This year we will have a novice meeting prior

to the events to answer questions and explain the event activities in more detail but I'll describe some of the major activities below. We plan to hold these meetings a weekend or two before the event for all new Reisentoter drivers.

Pack up the car and bring warm, cold, and rain gear to ensure great weather while you're at the event. I find that the trip goes easier if I can find someone to tag along with as I travel up the road. Find out who you know that's going, and caravan. After dinner, try to get to bed early because a day at the track will start around dawn. I personally can't drag myself out of bed on normal days but have absolutely no problem getting up at 5 A.M. before my alarm goes off when I'm at the track.

After driving to the track and signing in, you need to empty the car, torque the wheels, adjust the tire pressure (ask anybody what pressures to use bo no two answers will agree) and drive through Grid Tech for a final check on your car's condition. At the end of the tech line they will give you a tech sticker. You can now proceed to the Event Registrar (my wife for our events) and pickup you run group assignment and run group stickers. Now you should have a few minutes to relax and meet some of the other drivers before the drivers meeting. You must attend the drivers meeting and get your instructor assignments.

It's almost time to drive. I rambled quite a bit so I'll save the driving part for the next issue. **THE POCONO APPLICATION WILL BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE** so stay tuned.

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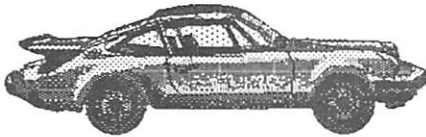
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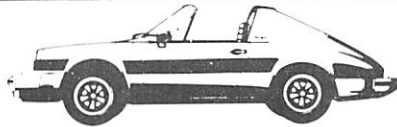
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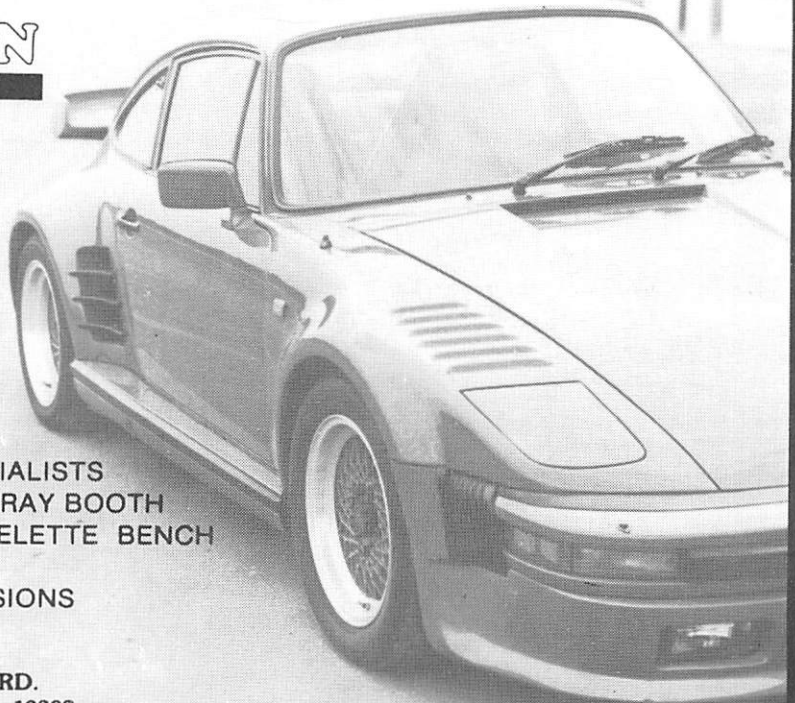
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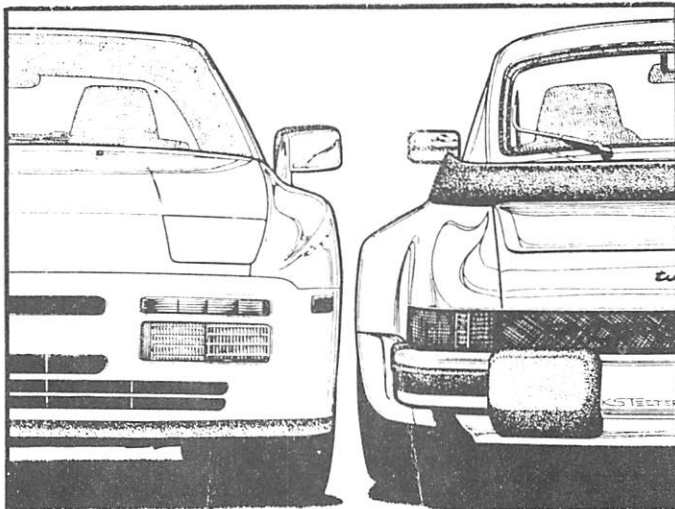
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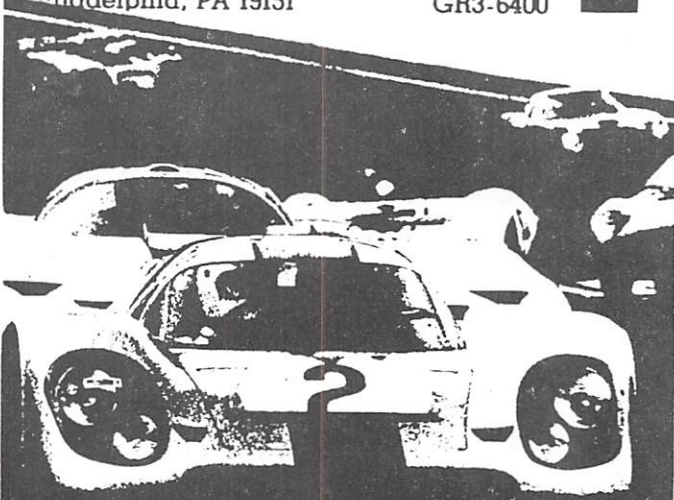


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