

December 2018

# The FOGlight



The Official Newsletter of the Porsche 356 Florida Owners Group.



Driving the Bathtub Boardwalk Promenade—a parade of over one hundred 356 Porsches through the town and along Ocean City's boardwalk.

*Photo by Janis Croft*



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#### Past Presidents of FOG

Frank Hood: 2011 - 2013  
Mike Davis: 2010 - 2011  
John Reker: 2007 - 2010  
Kirk Stowers: 2003 - 2007  
Rich Williams: 1993 - 2003

**The FOGLight** is the official publication of the Porsche 356 Florida Owners Group (FOG). It is published in even-numbered months. Send articles, photos and suggestions to: Janis Croft, Webmaster / FOGLight Editor at jlcfog@gmail.com

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

<b>James Boyter</b>	Port Charlotte, FL	1964 SC Coupe
<b>Mark Cochran</b>	Ft. Meyers, FL	1964 C Cabriolet
<b>Bob Garretson</b>	Warrenton VA	1959 A Coupe
<b>Gerald McCormick</b>	Jackson, MS	1965 SC Coupe
<b>Chris Nelson</b>	Crystal River, FL	1964 SC Cabriolet
<b>Erik Olsen</b>	Jacksonville FL	1963 B Coupe Outlaw
<b>Bruno Perree</b>	Palm Beach Gardens, FL	1965 Cabriolet
<b>Ralph Sikes</b>	Cumming GA	
<b>Jamie Poole</b>	Holly Spring, SC	1961 Notchback

(Jamie is a returning Member and prior Trustee)

Submit contact changes to Alan Winer, Membership Chair (alanwiner@356FOG.com)



## 2019 GATHERING OF THE FAITHFUL

Terrace Hotel in Lakeland Florida

### February 21-24, 2019

The Concours will be held around beautiful Mirror Lake.

Registration is now open at  
[www.356fog.com/2019gof.html](http://www.356fog.com/2019gof.html)

Hope to see y'all there!

## NEW NAME BADGES

Paul Raben can now make personalized name badges with magnetic clasps. The 356FOG badges have a new design and cost \$6.00 each (includes shipping). To order, mail a check made out to "Florida Owners Group" to Paul Raben, 1200 Orange Isle, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315 with your information.



Remember to also check out the Merchandise store on 356FOG.com for other FOG logo items you can purchase including shirts and hats.

# LOST AND FOUND & LOST AGAIN

by Alan Winer

Yesterday was a really good day, I found two missing work lights in one day. I kept saying that I would eventually find them but I was losing hope. One was missing for about three months until I found it in the engine compartment of the B Cab. It was black and just became invisible against the black insulation and engine tin, apparently it rode with us for quite a while. The other work light was found in the passenger side of the Healey. I don't know exactly how long it was there but it did ride to Charleston and back with us and that must have shaken it out of it's hiding spot or maybe it was trying to get out of the extreme heat those Healey's generate.

You see, upon a friends recommendation, I purchased two of the Braun magnetic COB slim barreled work lights from Harbor Freight. (Why I continue to shop there is subject for another article.) But these work lights are small, easy to misplace, have extremely strong magnets that grab onto everything near it and if you turn them on while looking at them, they will blind you like when you used to get your photo taken with those Kodak flash bulbs. The ones that when they worked would make you think you are seeing actual stellar constellations. While I appeared to be smiling in those early photos, I was actually grimacing from the anticipation of becoming flash blinded. The fact that I had lost both work lights at completely different times, some time apart, and then found them on the same day is both encouraging and curious.

These LED cordless work lights sure are an improvement over the old incandescent light bulb types. It's sure hard to misplace something attached to a thirty foot electric cord. And the heat generated when you hung them real close to your face while working under the car was surely uncomfortable. Of course you dropped it a few times which meant cleaning up the glass and twisting the threaded socket out with pliers. So, perhaps misplacing the smaller portable lights are a reasonable tradeoff.

I really dislike when I misplace things in the shop. It's never really a big deal but the thought of the missing item lingers. It seems I'm constantly looking for it and absolutely stupefied that I can't remember where I had put it. Now it's quite possible that I may be genetically programed with item misplacement and recovery syndrome and in hindsight growing up, I remember frequently hearing the phrase "can't see the forest for the trees". Vision is a peculiar thing, if you look too wide you will miss the composition of everything, if you are too myopic you will never see the totality.

I had a friend do some work on his car at my shop. Some time after he left, I noticed the socket which he had used was missing and I asked him if he remembered where he had put it—he did not. He felt bad and sent me a new one but I had already ordered another and then, as always, I found the missing one. Now I have three. Maybe I'll make some tool art. Actually I believe that most tool art or "car parts furniture" are made from unnecessary repurchased parts because they certainly don't seem to be a product of creative vision.

It astonishes and perplexes me that I can be using a tool and put it down and five minutes later it has totally vanished. Now it just may be possible that I do have some type of item misplacement disorder or it might be possible that there are other factors at play here. I have been a loyal Porsche fanatic and I am aware there is frequent mentioning of "The Porsche Gods." I speculate that I just may have fallen out of grace with them. I have searched the dark web, with no success, for some possible ritualistic ceremony to regain their acceptance and while I'm not a proponent of ritualistic events, I once did yoga for about 20 minutes without receiving any noticeable benefit except embarrassment.

Just because you place something in a logical place does not ensure the same logic will exist when you go to find that object.



## UPCOMING DEADLINES

### **Membership Renewals Due by Dec. 31!**

If your membership is up for renewal, you should have received an email with renewal instructions. Payment is either by check or credit card via website PayPal link. Questions? Contact Alan Winer, Membership Chair at [alanwiner@356FOG.com](mailto:alanwiner@356FOG.com)

### **GOF Registration and Hotel Deadlines**

Registration with shirt order	Jan. 22
Hotel Block Room Rate ends	Jan. 22
Last day to register	Feb. 14

# OUR YEAR OF FIRSTS

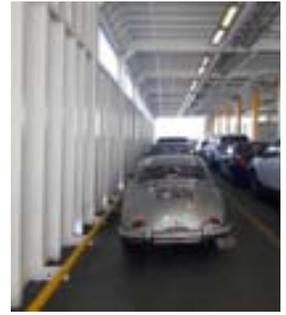
by Paul and Peggy Raben

This was a special year as it was full of “firsts.” This was the first year I turned sixty-five which meant it was time to sign up for Medicare. This year was the first Porsche Parade that we have ever attended. We had never been able to make it to a Parade because being self-employed, we didn’t have the ability to take much time off. While this was the year we retired, it was not for the “first time” (it was actually the fifth time) but this was the first time retirement stuck.

The really big first was attending the 356 Registry East Coast Holiday held in Ocean City NJ. We were really excited, this was also the first time in nearly 40 years (since we have owned our 356) that it has ventured out of Florida under its own power (the car was towed here from Michigan which doesn’t count.) We went into planning mode which involved route choices and how do we get all the stuff we need for a two week trip in the 356. I had been working on the car for two months making sure that it would be up to the trip but we all know you can never be sure.

Our decision was to take three days to travel to the event so as to not push ourselves and the car and to stop at preselected stops. Our first encounter with driving the car on I-95 for a long time was our first gas stop in North Florida. After fill up and restroom break, the car wouldn’t start! I had replaced the starter earlier this year because the same thing happened at the last GOF, another first. Of course you always hope a repair you make will take care of the problem which it had until this time. So I pushed and Peggy worked the controls. It took two attempts but we were on our way.

We drove on 95 as long as we had to until we got to South Carolina and could change over to US17 and go up along the coast. Earlier we had Speedster Jack tagging along until he decided we were going to slow for him. Our hotel stops along the way were Mt. Pleasant, SC and Pocomoke, MD. At both stops the big question was how many times will we have to push start the 356? Answer it never happened again and still hasn’t to this day. So the trip was going pretty well until the shifter was having trouble finding third and fourth gear. So of course I instantly blamed Peggy because she was driving at the time and the car obviously liked me better. That was until I couldn’t find third and fourth either which dispelled that theory.



All this leads to real distress when 20 minutes before we are to board the ferry in Lewes to take us to Cape May the shifter gives up. Fortunately we rolled into a parking lot one mile from the ferry and figured out a plan of action. I found out the shift coupler is disconnected from the shaft coming out of the gearbox. Not good, but having just gone through this with our 930, I jacked up the car, pulled the boot back and the locking screw from the coupler dropped out on the ground. I put it back in temporarily with vice grips and we arrived at the ferry just as boarding was beginning.

We get on the ferry with three other people and their 356’s (new friends) all heading to the ECH and head off to Cape May. Our first stop was the hardware store to get an Allen wrench set so I can properly install the coupler set screw and then lunch before heading to Ocean City. With both accomplished we made the short drive to the hotel to check in. While Peggy unpacked I went back down to the car to install the set screw properly. I jacked the car up full of hope until the final turn of the set screw stripped it out of the coupler.

Now I had to resort to “press on regardless” mode as the Simeone Museum tour was in the morning and we did not want to miss it—but we did not want to be stranded in Philadelphia without a shifter either. So I borrowed the hose clamp (don’t laugh) from the disposal drain line in the hotel room (which I put back), got the set screw in place and



(continued from previous page)



tightened it down. Needless to say it got us there and back albeit a little scary at times as it was loosening up. Besides the Simeone tour, this “fix” also allowed us to compete in the blindman autocross. This was a first and it was a blast, scary and lot of fun without a lot of yelling. Some cones were killed that day but they probably deserved it.



Photo by J.Lovejoy

The last event we participated in with the rigged coupler was the drive on the boardwalk. Sadly we weren't able to participate in the concours on the boardwalk as I was having the new coupler shipped overnight to the hotel to hopefully repair Saturday morning so we could drive home. This was the only thing that disappointed us as since we were unable to display the car which was the only removable hardtop at the ECH. Saturday morning was a cold and grey day for the concours which we walked for a short while until I left as the new coupler arrived at the hotel desk and it was time to get to work. Peggy stayed and took in the whole concours while I jacked up the 356 and put it on jack stands to be safe at least once. Now those that attended the ECH know it was about 30 degrees with the wind chill that morning which made working underneath the car all that much more fun. Forty-five minutes later new coupler was installed (thanks to FOG member Armando and Maurice at Stoddard) and we were back in action!



Paul and Peggy Raben at the Concours Photo by J.Croft

Saturday night was a very enjoyable evening as it was the cocktail party followed by the awards banquet and everyone was having a good time talking and eating with some Foggies even getting trophies.

The next morning after checking out we were feeling happy and confident as we headed to Peggy's sister's house to visit and stay overnight. In the morning another first, the car covered in frost and because the sprinklers were on, the doors were frozen shut. We had to wait for the sun to warm up the car so we could get in and start our drive home.

Once in the car, we headed south on the NJ turnpike on our way back towards Fort Lauderdale with a detour on the Blue Ridge Parkway and a stop at the Porsche Experience in Atlanta for a tour of the museum and track. But as things go we had a blowout on the NJ turnpike, another first!

I knew the spare was good and had used the jack enough times that the tire change was pretty quick. But now we had no spare. Peggy called around, found a Costco with a tire the right size an hour and a half down the road and had it installed on the wheel as we didn't want to wait three hours for them to get the car in the shop.



We drove the Blue Ridge for about six hours stopping often for sightseeing; then on to the Porsche Experience in Atlanta. We enjoyed the museum but lost out on the track tour due to the place being busy with a VIP luncheon. We would

have had to wait five hours and we wanted to get home. No worries, this will give us another excuse to visit again.

We had such a great time at the ECH even with everything that happened before and after that it only added to the experience. If you have not attended ECH wherever it is, it's something not to be missed and we are sorry it has taken us so long to make the trek to one. Furthermore we are already planning to drive our 356 to Flagstaff, AZ for the West Coast Holiday next year and fully expect things to go wrong because it is all part of driving a 54 year old car on a long trip!

(All photos by Peggy Raben unless otherwise noted)

# 356 FOG AT THE 2018 ECH



John Reker and Nando Lopez use the Amtrak Autotrain to arrive.  
Bathtub Boardwalk Promenade (below)

*Photos by Janis Croft, Renee Hood,  
Nando Lopez and Mark Pelkey*



FOG was well represented at ECH



# DRIVE THOSE CARS

by Dennis Brunotte

Our FOG Drive Those Cars Contest was originated by John Reker eleven years ago and continues strongly even today, and its secret to success has been the marvelous participation of our Porsche 356 drivers year after year. Our motto has been "Every Mile Counts" so even those who limit their driving to car shows, parades, and other local activities add to the success of our effort. The rules are fair and simple, so on Sunday, December 16, we ask you to please join our fun by recording a "starting odometer reading" for Contest Year 2019. You can tally your miles driven every couple of months when we solicit the updates on your progress. The guidelines for participation follow as well as the progress of our current 2018 contest participants. Please consider joining our fun on December 16th by sending your name

and email address to dkbrunotte@gmail.com (that's Dennis (Brew-NOT'-tee) at the gmail address. Thank you.

## FOG Drive Those Cars Contest Rules

1. Your car needs to have been manufactured by Porsche between 1948 and 1965 with any Porsche or non-Porsche engine installed.
2. Miles must be accumulated by the owner or members of his immediate family (spouse or children.)
3. Only one vehicle may be logged per outing (for those of you who may take two of your Porsches on the same trip.)
4. All reporting is on the honor system.

## 2018 CONTEST PARTICIPANTS

Allen Peerson	Jupiter	7166	Steve Bamdas	Lighthouse Point	2174
Paul Raben	Fort Lauderdale	5691	Pete Bartelli	Venice	1675
Jim Spears	Madeira Beach	5397	Chip Reichhart	Vero Beach	1584
Glen Getchell	Seminole	4395	Mark Hebb	Jacksonville	1550
Fernando Lopez	Riverview	3957	John Lovejoy	Jacksonville	1442
Bill Cooper	Jacksonville	3513	Sharon Cobb	Tampa	1425
Dan Bird	Vero Beach	2834	Glenn Long	Dunnellon	1275
Curt Dansby	Charlotte, NC	2719	Dick Weiss	Cincinnati, OH	1176
John Reker	Winter Park	2521	Russ Hibbard	Lake Worth	1014
Jim Bruton	Winter Park	2303	Alex Dearborn	Osprey	1013
George Dunn	St. Petersburg	2235	Alan Winer	St. Augustine	921
			Jerry Holderness	St. Petersburg	834
			Susan Remillard	Southwest Ranches	719
			Volker Schneemann	University Park	687
			Dennis Brunotte	Naples	514
			Jim Voss	Jacksonville	480
			John Boles	Pinehurst, NC	472
			Denny Zamler	West Palm Beach	465
			Jack Kasmer	Sebring	400
			Fred Trippensee	Avon Park	257
			Jamie Cielewich	Orlando	215
			Karen Walker	Cocoa	75



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# 2018 OKTOBERFEST

by John Reker

The Space Coast PCA put on its annual BBQ & Concours event Nov. 3. FOG was invited to participate in conjunction with the awarding of the Kirk Stowers Memorial Trophy for the People's Choice winners among 356s. Kirk was 356 FOG President from 2003 to 2007 and owner of Stowers 356 Restoration shop.

We had a fine turnout of 356s and awards were handed out by Rosemary, Kirk's widow. Third place went to Terry Cohen with his 1956 Speedster (pictured lower right). Second place went to Alan Winer and Janis Croft with their 1959 A Coupe (pictured lower left). First place winner, and recipient of the Kirk Stowers Memorial Trophy, was John O'Steen with his Stowers restored 1958 Speedster. John is a long time friend of Kirk's, and in fact Kirk restored John's car in his garage before opening his formal shop. The trophy was presented by Rosemary along with Steve Hoffman, event Chairman for Space Coast.



*John O'Steen (on left) receiving Stowers Trophy*



## MONTHLY REGIONAL MEETINGS

One of the major benefits of owning a 356 is the opportunity to meet and socialize with a marvelous group of people—our fellow 356 owners. Since the long distances in Florida make it difficult for many members to attend statewide events, we have developed a system of local breakfasts and/or driving tours to keep our members in touch with each other.

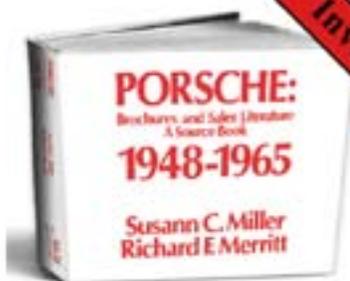
**Central Florida (Orlando area):** Breakfast first Saturday of every month. Lunch tours occasionally, but not on a fixed schedule. To receive notice/reminders of both the breakfasts and the lunch tours send an email to John Reker at [JReker@cfl.rr.com](mailto:JReker@cfl.rr.com) or call at (407) 629-0248.

**Northeast Florida (Jacksonville area):** Get together first Saturday of every month. Location varies. Contact Jim Voss at [vossjax@bellsouth.net](mailto:vossjax@bellsouth.net) or at (904) 529-1398.

**Northwest Florida:** Meeting dates to be announced. Contact Bill Hunkapiller at [bhunkapiller@yahoo.com](mailto:bhunkapiller@yahoo.com) or at 850-694-5435 for additional information.

**Southeast Florida:** Southeast Florida: Our Monthly Social (Porsches & Pancakes, as we call it) is held on the first Saturday of every month at Nick's 50's Diner, 1900 Okeechobee Blvd, Unit - C9, West Palm Beach, FL 33409. Phone number for the restaurant is: (561) 471-3155. Contact Randy Gananathan at [rdgananathan@gmail.com](mailto:rdgananathan@gmail.com) or (561) 623-9191 for more info. **SE FOG Tours:** Randy Gananathan is very interested in organizing tours in SE Florida, exclusively for FOG members and their 356's. Please reach out to Randy (contact info above) if you'd like to co-host a tour to an interesting venue.

**Southwest Florida (Sarasota area):** Last Saturday of each month at 9:00 am at First Watch Restaurant at the Publix Plaza located on University Parkway, just east of I-75 (exit 213). This draws FOGgies from Naples to Tampa. Contact Fernando Lopez at (727) 417-1120 or [mk2lopez@yahoo.com](mailto:mk2lopez@yahoo.com)



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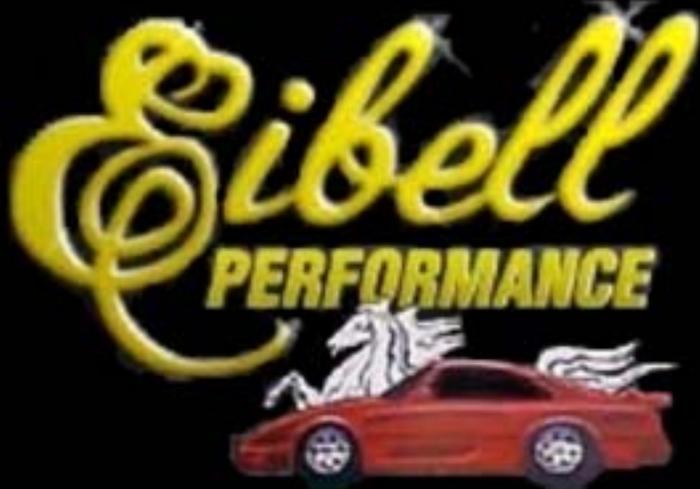


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Staging for Bathtub Boardwalk Promenade

*Photo by Renee Hood*