

Parade for the Car-less

by Wendy Shoffit

Why on earth would you ever want to attend a Porsche Club national event without bringing your Porsche? What do you do if your beloved baby is older or fragile and can't make the trek across the country or if it's in so many pieces it can't even make it out of the garage? Does that mean you have to miss out on all the fun? The answer is a resounding "NO!" There are many ways for people without their P-Cars to participate and compete at Parade.

One of the big four competitions historically is the Tech Quiz. Come test your technical and historical knowledge of all things Porsche and PCA. Sign up for your favorite model and era. Perhaps the 914 is your bailiwick, so come show those other guys and gals how much you really do know about them! Since there are so many 911s around, that quiz is divided into eras. Check out the current year's Parade Competition Rules (PCRs) for the complete list and start studying your copy of "Excellence was Expected." Not that there are many questions from there... it's just fun to read!

Relatively new to the Parade schedule is the Gimmick Rally. While it still requires some sort of vehicle, it doesn't have to be a Porsche. Your loaner hybrid will work just fine. Sign up and take in some of the most interesting roads in the area. See the sights, answer the questions, and have fun. If you just have to compete in the standard TSD rally, why not find a single driver out there? No, this is not a dating service... but there are always people who come to Parade without a navigator (and they can't compete alone). We'll do our best to get you a ride if you can't bring your own.

Another new competition is the Zone Challenge. This is an always changing set of events that test you in ways you never knew we would! Tug of wars, rapid tire changing, carburetor rebuilding, sandcastle building, virtual racing, you name it. Get together with others in your Zone to build your dream team. Even if you don't win, you'll have tons of fun trying!

What if you're artistic and know bubkes about the inner workings of a 944 engine, well then get out your paints, camera, needlepoint, or favorite artistic medium and enter the art show. Believe me, the artists are very serious about their work. Enter for fun or for competition and also enjoy the fruits of everyone else's labor. Amazing works of art abound.

Are you more into sports than the cars? Come play in the golf tournament against Peter Porsche or compete in the 5K Run/Walk. Get your heart pumping from exercise instead of the purr of the GT3. Whatever it takes.

Would you rather play with toys? Bring your favorite remote controlled car and see if you can beat the 7 year olds out there. Trust me, it's way harder than it sounds! If you don't have your own RC car, not to worry... Vu Nguyen always brings loaners. Oh, and try to beat HIM in his own car. That's harder than beating the 7 year olds!

The Parade organizers are always looking for more ways for people to be able to compete with each other, with or without a vehicle. So, don't let that stop you from coming to Keystone! You are sure to get your fill of whatever level of competition you desire, while your baby sits safe and protected in your garage at home.