



EST. 1952

The Gasline



Gary Reid – President

2023 Club Officers

Pebble Beach Sports Car Club BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gary Reid
President

Anthony Jimenez
Vice President

Sandi Miller
Treasurer

Secretary
Marisa Martinez

Markus Woehler*
Immediate Past President

Buck Jones
Merchandise

Vicky Kellogg*
Gasline Editor

Steve Fields**
Mike Hayworth
Monica Nathan
Warren Pierce*

*Past President

**New Board Member

(S. Fields returning board member)

President's Message

Dear Members

Ingrid and I just got back from six wonderful weeks in Germany visiting family & friends. We had a great time going to medieval castles, car shows & hiking in the Alps. It's always hard to leave but it's nice to be back home in beautiful Monterey County. Also, it's good to get back to the great people and events that make up the Pebble Beach Sports Car Club. I had a great time Saturday helping Anthony at Laguna Seca Cars & Coffee where I saw many members.

Speaking of Anthony. Many thanks to **Anthony Jimenez** for leading a tour of members to the Moto Talbot Motorcycle Museum. For more details and photos please see the related story inside this issue of The Gasline. Many thanks also to **Anthony**, vice president, for stepping into the president's position in my absence.

The recent July membership meeting held at the Veloce Event Center in Monterey was very well attended. The theme was German cars with a Mercedes-Benz Gullwing, Porsche 911 & BMW 435IS.

Thank you to everyone who came. Again, see inside this issue for more info on this highly successful and well attended event.

And just around the corner we will all be during our world-famous Monterey Car Week starting with our BBQ Meeting at the **Rippey's** on Aug. 5th. and culminating with the grandest event of all, the Concours de Elegance at the Pebble Beach Golf Club and Resort.

As I said, it was terrific to be away in Germany for such a wonderful trip, but **Ingrid** and I are both very happy to back home.

Volunteer Spotlight: Sandi Miller

A Portrait of Extraordinary Dedication



Sandi Miller, long time board member, secretary, treasurer and dedicated PBSCC volunteer recently received the 2022 **Esther Carlyle** Participant of the Year award for many long years of exceptionally dedicated service to the Pebble Beach Sports Car Club.

Sandi first joined PBSCC in 1997 along with her husband **Larry** when the club was resurrected. After being defunct for more than a decade. **Sandi and Larry** were an integral part of the new version of the club, recruiting board and club members, updating the by-laws, planning events, and overseeing all aspects needed to ensure a properly run, well organized car club that our members still enjoy today. Over the decades **Sandi and Larry** have been very active in all aspects in running the club up until **Larry's** passing of fall in 2022. However, **Sandi** continues to this day to dedicate herself to the club still as a member of the board of directors and as our current treasurer and registrar.

"I knew nothing about how to be a treasurer or really anything about finance", said **Sandi** at a recent luncheon with the writer of this article, "I just knew that we needed a treasurer and I basically taught myself how to do it." **Sandi** has been treasurer of the PBSCC now for about six years.

"She basically ran the club for the 16 years while I was president," said **Warren Pierce**, "She really was the 'power behind the throne.'," added **Warren**.

Markus Woehler, immediate past president said, “**Sandi** and I had a great working relationship. I always knew I could count on her, and she always came through. And she still does for the club.”

Sandi was born in Washington D.C. Her father was in the Coast Guard. Her husband, **Larry** was in the Navy. She and **Larry** met in Kodiak, Alaska while her dad was stationed there. She and **Larry** married in 1964 in New York City and spent the first three years of their marriage living in Oahu, Hawaii.

Sandi and Larry moved to the Monterey Peninsula in 1969 to Salinas and have remained here ever since. Although the club was resurrected in 1997, **Sandi** didn’t formally join the board of directors until 1998.

“We only had sixteen members back in those days,” said **Sandi**, “I just can’t believe our membership is now close to 200 members.”

Sandi drives her 2012 Miata around town and to many PBSCC events. However, she also has a 1978 Porsche 911 SC that she still owns and recently displayed at the recent dinner and membership meeting at Veloce’s Event Center in Monterey.

“**Larry** and I bought that car in 1979 and were the second owners; it had 1700 miles on it and after 44 years it has less than 80,000 miles.” Said proud owner, **Sandi**.

For more than 16years **Sandi** was the secretary of the club attending each and every board meeting and membership meeting to take and then type up the minutes.

The Pebble Beach Sports Car Club is lucky to have **Sandi Miller’s** dedication, support and expertise especially after all these years.

Thank You **Sandi!** And Congratulations from All of Us in the PBSCC Family!



A Bit of PBSCC History

**The Esther Carlyle Participant
of the Year Award**

Esther Carlyle passed away on January 18, 2018. She was 93 years old. **Esther** was instrumental in keeping the PBSCC running for more than 65 years. She was a member since 1956, a past president, and treasurer in 1985 onward.

In the late 1980's PBSCC went dormant as a result of dwindling membership. However, **Esther** continued to pay, on her own, the corporate fees and taxes to maintain the club's corporate entity and 501C3 tax exempt status as a nonprofit corporation through the decade plus years that PBSCC was dormant.

If it hadn't been for Esther, the PBSCC would have died completely. When the club was resurrected in 1997 the club was totally compliant with its legal and tax requirements thanks to **Esther Carlyle**, even though the club's board of directors and members had stopped meeting for more than a decade.

Esther was a Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) worker and flagged at Turn 5 at Laguna Seca for many years. She could be seen driving around the Monterey Peninsula in her beloved Triumph Spitfire.

At the time of **Esther's** passing the PBSCC board of directors and many members who knew Esther wanted to honor all that Esther had done for the club for so many years. In 2018 the board voted to establish the '**Esther Carlyle Participant of the Year Award.**'

Recipients to Date Include:

2018 **Marisa Martinez and Anthony Jimenez**

2019 **Peter Tweedt**

2022 **Sandi Miller**

Many thanks to this year's recipient, **Sandi Miller** for providing the editor with the above information. (See related story in this issue about **Sandi Miller**, the 2023 award recipient)

MOTO TALBOT MOTORCYCLE TOUR

On Saturday morning June 17, **Anthony Jimenez** led a group of about ten members to Carmel Valley for a tour of the Moto Talbot Motorcycle Museum.

The group met up at Chili's parking lot in Seaside and enjoyed coffee and donuts graciously. provided by **Anthony and his wife, Marisa**. (**Anthony** is vice president of the PBSCC board of directors and **Marisa** is secretary). From Chili's **Anthony** led a drive-up Highway 68, over Laureles Grade and then down into Carmel Valley and the museum.

The tour was led by non-other than **Robb Talbot** himself, best known as the founder of Talbot Vineyards and before that a successful clothing line. The museum features more than 170 motorcycles including Kawasakis, Bridgestones and Yamahas. It is considered the largest motorcycle museum in the entire state of California.

By the time **Robb Talbot** went off to Colorado's College of Fine Arts and Design in 1966 **Robb** knew he had already developed a deep passion for motorcycles. In 2001 he read a book called "The Art of the Motorcycle" from the Guggenheim Museum. It changed his perception of motorcycles forever.

"For the first time, I realized that motorcycles could qualify as art," said **Robb**. "And I really started to get excited about that idea."

In 2015, after 33 years in the business, **Robb** sold Talbot Vineyards. From then on, he devoted himself to his passion for motorcycles. Along the way he created the Moto Talbot Motorcycle Museum which recently opened to the public. For days and times of when its open visit the museum's website at mototalbot.com.

"Everyone seemed to have a good time," said **Anthony**, "and we were very lucky to have had. **Robb Talbot** himself give us the tour. I hope we can do the tour again next year."

The following is a list of participants and their cars for the day:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Anthony Jimenez | Audi TT |
| and Marisa Martinez | |
| Nancy McCroskey | Bug Eye Sprite |
| John Tennyson | Classic Mini Cooper |
| Markus Woehler | Audi TT |
| Toni and Jay Hilgers | Porsche 912 |
| JT Rethke | Fiat 124 |
| Scott Steinhauer | MG |
| Dick Arentz | Audi TT |

Moto Talbot Photos



Half Moon Bay Drive and Lunch

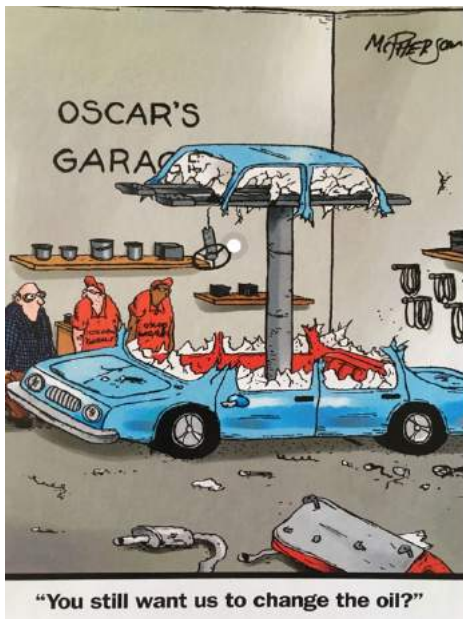


The Half Moon Bay Drive and Lunch was a sold-out event held on July 15, 2023. Participants gathered on a beautiful sunny day at the home of **Vicky and Steve Kellogg** for donuts, coffee, and fruit at 8:30 AM. After **Vicky** went over the directions everyone was given a goodie bag filled with lots of delicious (and not very healthy) tidbits to eat with a bottle of water to wash it down. At 9:30 the gang took off following **Vicky** in her Mercedes 560SL out from Pebble Beach up North on Highway One towards Santa Cruz. After a short respite at Safeway on Mission Avenue everyone was back on the road again heading North towards Half Moon Bay. At 11:30 all arrived in one piece at Cameron's Pub and Restaurant, a 30-year-old British themed restaurant located on Highway One in Half Moon Bay. **Steve Kellogg** brought up the rear as he was following behind all participants just in case anyone had a mishap. An abundant lunch of ribs, chicken, mashed potatoes and vanilla ice cream was enjoyed by all. At one point **Cameron** himself came out and introduced himself to everyone. After lunch a few went on a tour of an old historic home across the highway from Cameron's, others wandered around downtown Half Moon Bay and another group did a bit of shopping in Santa Cruz. The following club members participated in the drive:

Vicky and Steve Kellogg, Anthony Jimenez and Marisa Martinez, Markus Woehler, Debbie and David Hutchings, Wendy and Steve Fields, JT Rethke and guest, Cathy and Mike Rippey, Tami and Dennis Farber, Debra and David Langley, Marsha Zelus and Paul Johnson, Melody and Tom Cerrato, Sheri Glazebrook and guest, Claudia and Tom Gano, Nancy McCroskey and John Tennyson, Dennis Spencer, Chris and Tom Banks. (Apologies if anyone was left out!) Vicky Kellogg would like to thank her husband, Steve for all his help with this drive, Sandi Miller for tracking all the lunch reservation checks

Photography credits go to Steve Fields and Anthony Jimenez.





“I couldn’t find the sports car of my dreams, so I built it myself.”
Ferdinand Porsche

Veloce Event - Membership Meeting and Dinner

For a pleasant change of pace from our usual meeting place and venue at the Monterey Elk's Club PBSCC held it July 10th meeting (and dinner!) at the new Veloce Event Center on Lighthouse in Monterey.

With a theme focusing on German cars a few lucky attendees displayed their cars on the showroom floor of the Veloce Center. All cars were in exceptionally good company since in the far corner was parked a beautiful Mercedes 300 SL Gullwing. **Sandi Miller**, long time board member and current treasurer showed her 1978 Porsche 911 SC and club president, **Gary Reid and his wife, Ingrid** showed their 2014 BMW 435i (M package).

Many thanks to **Steve Kittrell, manager of Veloce and T&A Café Catering, Home of Kleinfeldt Family Barbecue.**

Please see attached photos of more members and their cars parked inside and outside of the Veloce event center.







Monterey Car Week
It's Almost Time to Start Your Engines
For Monterey Car Week Or
Whoopie!
It's Almost Christmas in August!

If you're a car nut, and you live on the Monterey Peninsula, you know you're part of a lucky bunch. Right in our own back yard each and every year we all get to be a part of the arguably greatest gathering of cars, automotive experts, auctions, races and car shows and more amid more than 50 events that make up the grand Monterey Car Week. Now more than 10 days long and drawing thousands of people from around the world that magical time of year is almost upon us. To find out what's happening each day log onto whatsupmonterey.com for a run-down of daily activities. From the car displays on Alvarado Avenue in Downtown Monterey on Friday, to the magnificent display of stunning classic cars culminating at Sunday's Pebble Beach Concours D' Elegance, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Just step out your front door and take it all in. And have a blast!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Bonnie and Chuck De Witt
Nick Edwards
Jennifer and Christopher Bruni
Kori and Dennis Spencer
Marsha and Mitch Taylor

Calendar

Important Note:

The following calendar is subject to change! You are strongly urged to watch out for calendar updates and notices regarding the dates listed below:

AUGUST

5 Pre Reunion BBQ and Potluck/Membership Mtng. (Mike and Cathy Rippey's home)
11-20 Monterey Car Week
(No board meeting this month)

SEPTEMBER

4 Labor Day
11 Membership Meeting (7PM)
16 Picnic in the Park (Carmel Valley)
25 Board Meeting (7pm)

OCTOBER

9 Membership Meeting (Board Nominations)
23 Board Meeting (7PM)
27-29 Cambria Overnighter (Steve Kellogg, with Cypress British Car Club of Monterey)
(Sold Out, waiting list only)

NOVEMBER

11 Veteran's Day
13 Membership Meeting, Board Elections, Toys for Tots Holiday Collection
23 Thanksgiving Day
25 Thanksgiving Brown Bag Leftover Lunch (Carmel Valley), Drive to Hahn Winery
27 Board Meeting (7pm)

DECEMBER

9 Holiday Luncheon/Membership Meeting (Marriott Hotel, Monterey)
25 Christmas Day
(No Board Meeting)

Member and Car Profile

“From Morocco with Love” - Car Transporter Adventure
by J.T. Rethke



In 1976, I made myself a BIG promise, . . . that if I could ever buy a sports car that actually worked, I would do it! The backstory is that in 1974 I bought an absolutely gorgeous used 1968 XKE Jaguar roadster, but after two years of battling LUCAS ever re-curing electrical issues I gave up and sold it. For years I had watched the evolution of the Mazda Miata. I also knew they would be reliable. When FIAT paired with Miata, I feel in love with the new sexy Italian body lines. Built side-by-side in Hiroshima, the Miata chassis and interior are shipped to Italy for the FCA (Fiat Chrysler Automotive) engine installation and body work.

Fast forward to the Spring of 2020, I read that this was the last year the Fiat 124 Spyder would be imported to the U.S. I had never had a “Fix-It Again Tony (FIAT)” but was ready to make the leap. I specifically wanted the Abarth racing version. My first objective was to see if I could actually get in and out of the little roadster without requiring extra physical assistance. I got busy and went to test drive one in San Jose, which unfortunately was an automatic. Since my Jaguar days, I had my heart set on a manual transmission. However, I was totally surprised how

easy, quick, and much fun the 6-speed automatic, especially with optional manual paddle shifters was to drive. I was also starting to learn about the Abarth. For some reason the showroom model totally refused to start, no matter how hard the dealership tried. I found out the multi-Air engine has cam-operated exhaust valves, but oil-pressure sensitive and variably modulated computer-controlled hydraulic lifters for the intake valves and also requires special synthetic Formula 1 Pennzoil. It requires a certain oil pressure to start. I later learned all this from a motor-head at PG's Little Car Show. He also said it was a great little turbo-charged 4-cylinder engine.

My goal was to buy the most loaded Abarth 124 Spyder I could lay my hands on . . . creating in my mind, an "instant" classic. I got busy on the Internet and found a white Abarth 124 Spyder with optional red-stitched Recaro leather/Alcantara suede leather seats and a 7-speaker Bose surround-sound system at the Stafford Dodge / Fiat Auto Group dealership in Springfield, Virginia with only 13 miles on the odometer. I decided it would become my 70th birthday present. My initial idea was to make an epic cross-country drive across America, but a sore back and the cost of hotels/meals/gas made me re-consider. A friend suggested I have the car shipped to California, something I'd never even considered.

Having never shipped any car before I decided to do a little bit of Internet research exploring the world of auto transporters. That quickly scared the hell out of me! Site after site told how simple and easy it was for any fool with a pickup truck and a bumper hitch to become an instant money-making machine, auto transporter. You quickly find out that brokers put together loads of cars via a centralized website and then contract with the actual trucking firms to ship the cars. Broken promises, sometimes damaged or even lost cars, and always overly optimistic quick deliveries . . . seemed to be the norm.

I called the dealer and asked if they knew any reliable broker/transporters. One of their salesmen had started his own auto transporter business and had successfully moved cars for them across the country, and they gave me his contact info.

Armed with the basic knowledge of the auto broker / transporter business process, I called the broker. He asked I send him \$200, and we agreed on a delivery cash price of \$1,500 for an open air transporter (versus a more expensive enclosed transporter). At the end of our conversation, I casually asked where he was physically located. He answered, "Well . . . you wouldn't believe me if I told you!" "Try me," I replied. "I'm in Morocco." was his reply! This immediately made me nervous. Obviously, he would be making up the transporter load mix of vehicles . . . remotely. He also instructed me to go to my Wells Fargo bank to get a ZELLE money order sent to Morocco. I had never heard of ZELLE, but my bank was used to ZELLE money orders. What could possibly go wrong?

He informed me my car would be picked up on May 25 and should be delivered to California in approximately 5 days. Wow! That sounded way too good to be true!

After 5 days, I decided to call my broker in Morocco to get an update on the expected delivery date and was told it would be at least another week's time. Luckily, I was carrying my cell phone during a hike through the Mission District of Carmel only a few minutes later, when I received another phone call, this time from the actual auto transporter driver. He said he was headed for Bakersfield, CA and would be arriving in nearby Sand City, CA (immediately adjacent to Monterey) to deliver my car the very next day, Sunday May 30 at 10 AM! Wow! I was sure glad

I hadn't missed that important phone call. The broker had instructed me that the transporter driver was to be paid \$1,500 in cold hard cash.

True to his word, Vournee and I saw the shiny beautiful new hydraulic-controlled transporter drive into the center lane of a wide boulevard in Sand City right on time the next morning. My little Abarth 124 was the very last car at the lower rear of the transporter. The young 30ish driver disembarked and quickly got my new baby ready to unload. From his eastern European accent, I guessed he was from Ukraine. I was immediately impressed by his careful and professional manner. After unloading my car, he carefully inspected it for any damage and took several digital photos before he turned the car over for my inspection. It was dirty from road grime, but in perfect condition and still had only 13 miles on the odometer!

I asked if he had a co-driver. Smiling he replied "No, just my female bulldog." He unloaded two more cars for waiting customers and I'm guessing he carried a safe for all the cash he was collecting. I felt very lucky to have gotten my brand-new car in good shape and in the promised timeframe. I was happy to give the young driver a \$100 tip, which made him and his bulldog very happy as they drove off toward Sacramento.

The Abarth 124 Spyder turned out to be a great 70th birthday present. There is no FIAT badging anywhere on the car . . . only the famous Abarth scorpion symbol on the bonnet, steering wheel, and boot lid. One of my very favorite features of this little roadster is the single manual latch lever for operating the convertible top.

Note: My Air Force call sign was, "Speedbrake" . . . per my personalized plate.

Contributors

Many thanks to the following members for their help in producing this summer issue of The Gasline:

Gary Reid: For his President's Letter

Steve Fields: Photos

Anthony Jimenez: Moto Talbot Museum photos and info

Sandi Miller: Everything; getting names and info right, info on Esther

Carlyle, review of newsletter copy, and much more.

J.T Rethke: Story about him and his Abarth

If I missed anyone's name, my apologies!

Vicky Kellogg

The Gasline Editor