

MEMBER MOMENT

MARK Francis



How old are you, what is your occupation and where do you live? 38 years old, I live in Keswick, VA with my wife Caren and our sons John (4) and Ben (21 months). I work for CDOC in sales.

What was your first car? 1977 Datsun 810 station wagon. It was sort of cool because the 810 had the 2.4 inline-6 from the 240Z, but with fuel injection instead of carburetors.

What was your first Porsche? current Porsche?, any modifications? First Porsche, a Gemini Grey 1983 944. It was a great car. A daily driver, DE and autocross car all rolled into one. Bought it in 1997 from the original owner. She had driven it in Car & Driver's One Lap of America several times. I would still have it if it wasn't totaled when I was rear ended at a traffic light in 1999. Current Porsches are a 1984 911 Carrera that I club race (haven't since the motor came out for a rebuild in 2005). I have been assured that it will be ready for the VIR Club Race in August. Also have a 1986 944 that's my daily driver. A 1993 964 C2 has been living with us for 3 years though it technically belongs to my

father. Call this one the next Porsche since dad is the original owner and will stay in the family when he decides to sell it.

Why did you choose this model? Chose the first 944 because I have always liked them and because I could afford it. Bought the 911 when I decided in 1999 that I wanted to go club racing and had it converted to a track car within 4 months of purchase. My dad had a 1976 911S when I was little so I have always loved the 911. I won a lot of races in that 76. A child's imagination is priceless.

What is your earliest Porsche memory? My parents had a 1964 356C when I was born, but my earliest Porsche memories are of the 1976 911S. Even at 8 years old, loved the sound of the flat 6. My sister and I spent hours playing in that car in the driveway.

What is your dream Porsche and why? That's a tough call. Of the modern 911's, a 996 GT3. To me this car is as close as you can get to the purity and driving experience of the air cooled 911's. Of the air cooled variety, lately I have been pondering how neat it would be to have

a short wheelbase 911 for a track car since I love the long hoods. Of those, a 1972 911S. Love the external oil filler door. Also would love a Euro 964RS in Maritime Blue.

What is your favorite Porsche-related activity? That's easy. Club racing. Also really enjoy instructing and love the fact that both tie into my job so work would make the list as well.

What is your all-time favorite Porsche and why? You have to split this one up because of the longevity of the 911 model. Of the early cars, any 67-73 911S. Of the 74-89 Variety, my 84 Carrera. Of the 89-98, the 964 C2. Of the current era, the 996 GT3.

What is your favorite driving song? Tie: Cliffs of Dover by Eric Johnson, and Favorite Game by The Cardigans

What non-Porsche activities do you enjoy? I enjoy spending time with the family and watching my boys grow up. Love golf; though don't get to play as much these days. I love to read.



Shenandoahans at Parade Charlotte 2008

From left to right the front row subjects are - Teresa Hanger, Tana Raefer, Gail Smith, Phyllis Scrogam, Bobbie Powers, Ginger Elmore, Jeffrey Elmore, Jill Sanders and Bill Sanders. On the back row they are Scott Raefer, Johnny Johnson, Thomas Bridgers, Alex Smith, Dave Lawrence and Herb Distefano. Not pictured are Kerrigan Smith, Weldon Scrogam and the Cole/Suanne Scrogam family. Technically Scott and Tana Raefer had not become members at time of photo but promised to soon.

photo courtesy Herb Distefano