



Magnolia PCA

For Mississippi Porsche Lovers

New Years Party Jan. 17th at Alice VanRyan's House, Jackson (details to come)

New 2003 Rule Change regarding driving record in Mississippi

As some of you may know for years persons under the age of 21 had the option of taking a traffic school instead of having a ticket on their driving record. If you were over 21, tough luck. Recently, I learned the hard way that adults (people over 21) are now allowed the same privilege. Using all my Mississippi State University resources I searched the Mississippi Law code and find no mention of either of these policies. So it's hard to give any concrete data. Here's what I know from my personal experience.

YDT (Youth Driver Training)

I was ticketed for going 69 in a 59 back in March of 2000 on Hwy 25 outside of Louisville, MS. I knew about this rule, so I asked the court clerk how I could go about attending YDT. She told me I had to come to court and plead guilty and ask the judge for it. I did as they asked and was required to pay the original fine + go to YDT in the next 90 days. The class was offered at various places in the state, I picked one that was convenient and attended the class which was joke. It consists of an educational video and a written exam. After the exam was over, the instructor gave us the test and told us they were going in

the garbage can either way so we could stay and take them or leave early. That's my kind of rehabilitation. Participants attend a voucher coupon which had to be returned to the court by 90 days of paying the ticket. Once the court received the coupon, they expunged the data from your record. This is a one time use loop hole, it can only be used once and must be used while your under 21. Attendance before the judge was required in 2000, this could be different now. You have to specifically ask for this, otherwise they will not tell you.

ADT (Adult Driver Training)

Last week The gendarmes popped me for failing to come to a complete stop at traffic device (stop sign). I had a brief conversation with the local county clerks office today, and they told me of the new rule that phased in this year. Basically it's the same program as the YDT except you must be over 21, have not had a ticket since Oct, 2002 (I think what they mean is 1 year ago). The cool things is that you do not have to waist your time and go to court, simply go the court clerks office, sign an affidavit, pay the fine, take the class and get the coupon back with in 90's. The only catch 22, is that once this option has been used there is a 3 year reset period. As with the YDT, you must specifically ask for this, I called both the city and

county clerks office twice and they never mentioned it. It wasn't until the third call, when I asked about the program that they told me about it.
--Stephen McGown



Are there any volunteers?

Almost every PCA Region is going through the annual search for officers and committee members; some Regions have people vying for jobs, but it seems to be more common to have to search for people willing to fill the position. There are a couple of important points to consider in this....

I.PCA is virtually a totally volunteer-run organization; no elected officer, up to and including the National President, receives a salary. Some of us who serve on the National staff receive some travel reimbursement, but that's it; all the time spent is on a purely voluntary basis.

I.Membership in PCA is like membership in many other organizations; what you get out of it is quite often largely based on what you put into it.

In the October 2003 issue of Panorama, National President Tom Bobbitt mentions a very valid

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point; he has had many people complain to him about the activities (or lack of same) of their PCA Region. Tom (and my experience backs this up) finds that almost invariably, the complainers are not volunteering to plan or conduct events, they seem to expect someone else to do it--to their liking. What's wrong with this picture?

It's actually pretty simple; PCA can't function on any level without

volunteers, and if we have the same volunteers doing the same jobs over and over again we will have burnout and we will not have fresh ideas. PCA is what you make it; you'll be amazed how quickly the "cliques" disappear when you raise your hand and volunteer to do something. You can start out small with a tour or a social, or you can jump in and volunteer for a larger job; it can work either way. If you're not getting what you want from PCA, is it because you

haven't put anything into it? My motto as a Region President was that if you were willing to complain about something you had just volunteered to fix it; another one that I will shamelessly borrow from Michael Contino, President of Carolinas Region, is "Lead, follow, or get out of the way". Think about it; your Region could probably use your help!

--Dick Kjellson