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# Porsche Club of America- Delaware Region

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Michael Soriano, National Chair: Awards Program  
Re: Family of the year

12/15/2021

## Nomination of: The AK Kissell Family

The AK Kissell family is: AK, Helga and their son Arno (35). AK's interests in German marquees goes back to 1958 with the purchase of a red Volkswagen. In 1967 he added his first Porsche. A 1963 356B, Smyrna green; still tucked away in his barn. His interest turned to the new mid-engine models in 1971 and bought a new 914 in Bahia red.

AK's wife Helga, a German and French teacher, is always by his side supporting and helping him in all his Porsche adventures. This also transferred into his son Arno's veins with a passion for German cars and especially wrenching one of his father's cars or one of the half dozen or more Porsche tractors.

In 1993 while attending the 38<sup>th</sup> Porsche parade with his brother he became a member in the Delaware and Mid-Ohio Regions. His interest in the 914's kept growing and by 1998 had added an ivory 914-6. This car was displayed in 2005 at the 50<sup>th</sup> Porsche Parade held in Hershey, PA.

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In 2004 AK was recruited to become our Club Historian and still holds the position today. AK, as a member of our board, is one of the most supportive people to me and our club. He's not just a member but a proactive member constantly looking for ways to support our activities. And once planned Helga and Arno are there to help.

In 2010 our club celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and AK was a major key to securing the DuPont Hagley Museum to host our event. We had a line of 50 cars arranged by category for our region concourse event. AK takes pride in the concourse and orchestrating the voting process. Helga was there helping to organize the registrations.

On holiday events he leads our event with a blessing. AK, Helga and Arno are also members of the Delaware Saengerbund (German Club) and have tied displays of our cars into their events.

In 2015 at the 60<sup>th</sup> Porsche Parade he entered the 914-6 and came in 1<sup>st</sup> in the Preservation Class. He also entered his 1957 Porsche diesel tractor in the Historical Display. Again in 2016 at the 61<sup>st</sup> Porsche Parade held at Jay Peak, Vermont, the 914 won first in the Preservation Class.

In 2021 Ak and family made the trip to the Parade in French Lick, Indiana and displayed the 914. He and the family could probably write a book on this journey alone. From breakdowns along the way to finding parts for the trailer and finally getting back home. Quite a story.

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AK and the 914 have also been featured in issues of the Panorama magazine. AK is a true asset to the Delaware Region and PCA. He has been indispensable in his contribution to me and our board.

I believe AK, Helga and Arno are truly the Porsche Family of the Year and maybe the decade.

Sincerely,

Fred Stapleford, President

PCA- Delaware Region



