

Smoke Signals

July
2014

The Official Publication of the Smoky Mountain Region Porsche Club of America



**Porsche Profile:
Bill Johnson**

On the web at www.smtPCA.org

SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION PCA

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On The Cover: Brake and wheel detail from Bill Johnson's GT3. (photo:Steven Schleif)

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FROM the PRESIDENT

Hello from the great Northwest! Carol and I are on an extended trip with our travel trailer to California and the Northwest. As I write this article, I am sitting in an RV Park on the bank of the Columbia River in White Salmon, Washington – beautiful weather, 94 degrees today. From here we are headed to Victoria, BC; east toward Banff, Calgary, Montana, Wisconsin, Chicago (to see 4 grandkids), and then home. It has been and continues to be a great adventure.

One of the highlights of the trip thus far was attending the Porsche Parade in Monterey, CA. There were 1200 plus registrants, which translated into about 2500 people. The Hyatt Hotel was stretched to the max and those like us, staying offsite, had to use satellite parking and take a shuttle bus to the hotel. While there we had the opportunity to volunteer at the Goodie Store, which had a lot of nice clothing and other Porsche related items.

On Sunday we attended the Welcome Party at the Custom House Plaza in Monterey on the waterfront. The weather was cold (but my new jacket from the Goodie Store kept me warm), the food was so so, but time with the Kuckenbeckers from Peachstate Region and other new friends made for a warm evening. Peter Porsche was in attendance and at the end of the evening helped unveil the new Boxster GT3.

Monday was Concours Day and what an awesome sight that was! There were over 200 cars, Porsches

from the early years through 2015. Anything you can imagine – original, modified, performance, racing, etc. – was on display on the 17th fairway of the golf course adjacent to the Hyatt. We spent hours just walking around looking and talking to owners and other spectators. My wish list just got bigger.

Tuesday was a trip down the Pacific Coast highway to see Hearst Castle. Driving a Ford F-150 is a lot of work, not like driving a 911! Wednesday we moved on as we agreed driving the F150 in Rallies and Autocross would be no fun. The 2014 Escape is coming up in Orlando, FL and next year's Parade will be in French Lick, IN.

Back home, I know Janis is working on Autocross dates, but we seem to be having communication difficulties with our contact at Pellissippi. Janis is continuing to follow up for confirmation of our requested dates. We will let you know when we are able to secure some dates.

A one day drive-out to McCloud Mountain is being planned for July. Details in this issue of Smoke Signals.

Happy motoring and hope to see you soon.

Rich Neubauer

President

Escape to Magical Orlando

Space Coast and Florida Citrus Regions invite all PCA members to attend Escape to Magical Orlando at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, November 6-9, 2014. Be part of the "Tacky Tourist" welcome reception on Thursday evening, enjoy drives throughout Central Florida to Kennedy Space Center for lunch with the Astronauts, the Dali Museum, BruMos Collection, Sebring International Raceway, the hills of Mt. Dora, Daytona International Speedway, and share your experiences at Saturday evening's banquet. Get all of the details for Escape to Magical Orlando at Escape2014.pca.org.

Registration for Escape to Magical Orlando opens at 9 pm EDT on Wednesday, July 9th at ClubReg-

istration.net. Walt Disney World has provided an incredible room rate of \$139.00 per night; additional room nights can be added at that rate should you wish to arrive early or extend your stay. Coronado Springs Resort offers complimentary shuttle service to all of the Walt Disney World theme Parks and attractions. Discounted Park admissions will be available at registration check-in.

A Driver Education (DE) event hosted by Florida Suncoast/Gold Coast Regions is scheduled for Sunday, November 9th at Sebring should you wish to add some track time on the historic 12-Hour circuit. Register separately for that event at ClubRegistration.net.

From the Driver's Seat

Where did June go? I thought February was the shortest month of the year!

And now we are a week and a half into July.

I had a very enjoyable Fourth of July weekend spent with extended family out at Cherokee Lake. Traveling from as far away as Sarasota, FL and Pittsboro, NC, we all converged on the lakehouse that my sister and brother-in-law recently moved into. Fireworks on the lake, boating, kayaking, and tubing during the day, lots of good conversation, and of course, plenty of delicious food.

The start my holiday weekend, however, involved my Porsche. My cousin from Illinois was vacationing in Blairsville, GA so we met up in Robbinsville. After

securing his Kia Soul, I tossed him the keys to the 914 and let him drive. He drove the relatively tame road from Robbinsville to Deals Gap to get a feel for the car. Then we hit the Dragon. Since he had never been on this mountain road before, he took it easy. At the lookout near mile 9, we got out and swapped seats and I took us back up the mountain. The new Hankooks felt good!

We stopped at Deals Gap and then headed to Fontana Dam and back to Robbinsville. It was a fun visit with my cousin whom I don't get to see often enough.

I took the Dragon on the way back home where I met up with my wife and then we headed to Cherokee Lake (in a Honda).

Steve
editor@smtpca.org

HEARD 'ROUND the REGION

• We were pleased to hear that no major issues developed for Dale Biehler after he had a shunt in the North Carolina mountains while on tour with a group of friends. Dale's BMW motorcycle hit a slick spot in a curve, throwing him and the bike over the mountains edge. Dale is OK. Now... Mary Nell, his wife, is not a very happy camper at this point.

• Our Prez, and his lovely Carol, are still touring the left coast. They attended several days of the Parade in Monterey, and are heading back as this is written.

• If you're thinking about Peachstate Region's multi-event weekend, Rennfest, over Labor Day, registration is now open at www.peachstatepca.org. Bob Kuchenbecker says to fill out the registration form on-line, print it, and then with an enclosed check, mail to the provided address. The Brasstown Valley Resort in Young Harris, GA, the host Hotel, fills up very quickly for the Labor Day weekend, so it's suggested you call them right away to secure a room. Their telephone number is 706.379.9900.

• Porsche didn't do as well as hoped at this year's

LeMans enduro. Both LMP1 cars failed during the race, although one was cranked back up as the last lap started, and crossed the start/finish line right behind the winning Audis. The GT cars did better ending 2nd and 5th in GTE AM, and a 3rd in GTE PRO.

• At a recent news conference, prior to the Austrian F1 race at the Red Bull Ring, Luca Cordero di Montezemolo, presently Chairman of Ferrari, gave a slight indication that Ferrari might get back into endurance racing, such as LeMans. Wouldn't that be great? Seeing major players such as Porsche and Ferrari at each other again?....

Vic Rola
Vice President

Day Drive to McCloud Mountain



View from McCloud Mountain.

photo by Frank Prout

by Janis Berry

Please join us on Saturday, July 19, as we gather for a drive out to McCloud Mountain once again.

We will meet in Ingle's parking lot (same as last year) at I-75/Emory Road exit at 8:30 a.m.

This drive takes us through the communities of Halls, Andersonville, Rocky Top (formerly Lake City), and LaFollette as we stop at McCloud Mountain for lunch.

Following lunch, we will then leave LaFollette and return through Clinton and Powell as we make our way back to Knoxville. (There will be breaks taken every hour.)

Please e-mail Janis at janis@eurotechknoxville.com with your name, car, and cell phone number if you plan to attend.



PORSCHE PROFILE: Bill Johnson

by Bill Johnson

I started out as a Corvette guy, had 7 of them including a '63 split window Stingray Coupe. It was that 7th one when the flame went out; it got stolen with only 1400 miles on it.

The last time the investigating detectives came to my house, one asked me as they were leaving, "Why don't you get a Porsche or BMW?"

I asked "Why?" and he told me thieves will step over 100 of them to steal a Corvette.

That piqued my interest and soon I had a 1980 924 S. It was loaded and looked good, but soon I realized it was no 911.

On April 22, 1982 I got a new black 911 SC from Tom Harper and the rest, as they say, is history.

I'm now on Porsche number 14 - a black 2011 911 GT3. It is a rocket.

I no longer have the '82 but I do have the original window sticker, sales brochure, and bank contract, and the pen I signed the deal with.

One of my most memorable Porsche moments came on August 18, 2002 when I got to drive my '96 Carrera around the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Grand Prix circuit.

By attending many, many races over the years, I have been fortunate enough to meet a lot of Porsche racing drivers. Some of them include: F1 World Champion Alain Prost who drove the McLaren TAG Porsche to the F1 World Driving Championship; Hurley Haywood and Hans Stuck who have won

virtually every endurance race and championship in North America and the World; Al Holbert and Derek Bell who partnered to win many championships with Porsche during the IMSA days; Norbert Singer who ran Porsche's LeMans program for many years beginning with the 917; Herbert Ampfurer who was Porsche racing director for many years in the '90s; and of course, Dan Gurney, the first man to ever win a Formula One race in a Porsche.

From my first Porsche until 2012 I drove my Porsche virtually every day, averaging well over 30,000 miles per year. Do the math - that's over 1 million Porsche miles!

Now I have a daily driver (Volkswagen R32) so most Porsche miles are rung up on the weekends or during a special weekday drive.

I still clean up my own car, love doing track days, going to races, and concours. I really like other cars, too, but nothing says "please move over to the right lane" like a 911 at about 5,000 RPM.

I've never been scared in a Porsche but I did go around Nashville Superspeedway in a driving rain with Patrick Long, factory driver for the Flying Lizard racing team, in a turbo S clocking about 155 mph on the main straightaway. He never put a wheel wrong.

As Marketing Manager for Harper Auto Square, I hope the coming years will see us have many more exciting functions with PCA, especially like our new member reception in April 2014 where we had some 64 guests attend.

I will be glad to help sponsor and promote PCA whenever possible. I've had a great car life and I hope there are a few more trades and many more Porsche miles still to come (at speed).



"Still the best damned license plate in Tennessee."





Bill's current Porsche is this black 2011 911 GT3 that he describes as "a rocket".



Over the years, Bill has been fortunate to meet many racing greats. Upper left - Bill gets an autograph from Alain Prost. Upper right - Bill poses with Norbert Singer. Above - Bill and Al Holbert standing under a Lowenbrau tent.

2014 CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Location	Time
July 19	Drive-out	McCloud Mountain	8:30am
Aug 12	Monthly Social/Dinner	TBA	7:00pm
Aug 23	Tech Event	TBA	TBA
Aug 29-Sep 1	Renn Fest	Peachstate Region PCA	-
Sep 11	Monthly Social/Dinner	TBA	7:00pm
Sep 13	Autocross	TBA	TBA
Sep 20-21	Overnight Drive	TBA	-
Oct 5	Concours OR Drive	TBA	-
Oct 8	Monthly Social/Dinner	TBA	7:00pm
Oct 18	Board Meeting (Members Welcome)	TBA	6:00pm
Oct 18	2015 Planning Meeting	TBA	10:00am
Oct 19	Autocross	TBA	TBA
Nov 8-9	Fall Fest	TBA	TBA
Nov 13	Monthly Social/Dinner	TBA	7:00Wpm
Dec ??	Holiday Party	TBA	7:00pm

Please visit smtPCA.org for up-to-date information on events.

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2002 Porsche Boxster

• Green with black top and camel interior, Tiptronic Transmission, 88,100 miles, 17 inch wheels, Bose sound system, 6 CD changer, good condition. Located in Townsend, TN. Asking \$12,500. Rich Neubauer (407) 491-3403 or rnlga@gmail.com



DER MARKET

Set of 13 factory shop manuals for early Boxsters ('98 to 2002) \$30.00 or best offer.
Janet Lanz at 865-986-0931 or japasha@aol.com

2006 Boxster S with Low Miles!



• Pristine condition with low miles! Gorgeous exterior is Lapis Blue with immaculate peanut butter tan. This Porsche is a recent two time winner of the Porsche Regional Concours. Meticulously maintained by owner with service records available. Mechanically flawless, immaculate running condition, and all accessories work perfectly. Fully equipped with a tiptronic automatic transmission, heated front leather seats, power seating, rain sensing wipers, BOSE premium sound system with windstop, 6 disc cd changer, automatic climate control, BI-Xenon headlights, and new tires. This vehicle is always garaged with a cover, never smoked in, and never involved in any accidents. Now is your chance to own this amazing vehicle and be confident in knowing you made a great choice. Clean title in hand. Call or email for more information.

Contact Nick Imperato 865-776-8097



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DESCRIPTION:

A great PCA Class F car (easily modified to Class E or Spec 911). Winning car! Built and engineered by Greg Fordahl (Chief Engineer at Alex Job Racing)

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SMT DECALS NOW AVAILABLE!

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Round Logo



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Smoky Mountain Region has an online marketplace at <http://smtpca.org/der-market>

Smoky Mountain Region has a Goodie Store at <http://smtpca.org/goodie-store>

Smoky Mountain Region has a user forum at <http://smtpca.org/forums>

Next time you are online, visit the Smoky Mtn Region web site at smtpca.org

You can browse the site and see photos, events calendar, and more. And if you register as a user, you will be able to do a lot more such as post pictures, comment on other posts, submit stories, post for sale items, and interact with other PCA members on YOUR web site.