

Smoke Signals

Official publication of the Smoky Mountain Region Porsche Club of America

FALL
2017



SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION PCA

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Smoke Signals is the official publication of Smoky Mountain Region, Porsche Club of America (PCA).

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Smoke Signals is published quarterly with all versions posted in PDF form on the web site. Printed issues are available by special request. Deadline for materials is the third weekend of the last month of that quarter for publication in the next issue. For information on, or submission to, **Smoke Signals** contact Matt Fischer at mtfischer@comcast.net. Please put "Smoke Signals" in the subject line.

FROM the PRESIDENT

Greetings Smoky Mountain Region:

Like all of you, I can't believe another year has almost vanished. Seems like last week we were planning our events for 2017. Now we are working on the 2018 calendar!

There are too many to name, but I offer a special thank you to all of you who have (EVER) planned our drive outs – both day and overnight events, our socials, our autocross series, Spring Thing, maintaining our website, putting this newsletter together that you are reading now, and our board which oversees all of this. Without these people, we would not have the opportunities to drive and enjoy our cars that we do have.

Having just celebrated Thanksgiving, it makes me slow down and think about all of the blessings in my life. A wonderful loving family, a career that's been good to me, and my PCA family. I have been very honored and lucky to be involved in our group, and to get to know so many wonderful people.

We are a fortunate group, to be able to drive some of the best cars available, but also to get to meet so many interesting, thoughtful human beings. It's not always about the cars, as the saying goes. The more I see of our broken world, the more fortunate I feel in this country, extremely grateful for what it offers, warts and all. I hope all of you feel the same way; there is no place I'd rather live. Take time and think about your situation, about those loved ones around you.

Our club is going to take on a more active role next year as far as charitable causes are concerned. We're starting with requesting a \$10 donation for each event we do, and will donate the proceeds at the end of the year.

Along those lines, Bob Baugh spearheaded our first annual "Turkey's In the Trunk" this year, and we brought in a lot of food for KARM and the Salvation Army. Rounding up a little, a full TON OF FOOD! Plus about \$700 in cash donations! WOW! They in turn fed those without a place to go on Thanksgiving. Thanks Smoky Mountain Region! We will also announce a charity that we are helping at ***this year's holiday party December 7***; I truly hope you can attend.

I wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving, and to seeing you at our upcoming events.

See you at the next event!

Social December 7th!

See you soon

Rich McGowan

President-Smoky Mountain Region PCA

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

2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Make your plans now to join fellow PCAers at many of the Region's yearly events. You can

- Get to know other members during the monthly socials.
- Learn the handling characteristics of your Porsche at the autocrosses.
- Attend the Concours School to learn the ins and outs of Concours judging.
- Spend a weekend with other Porschephiles for socializing, driving, and lots of fun at Spring Thing.
- Help improve the club by participating at the quarterly Board Meetings.

2017

JULY

6 – 16 – Porsche Parade, Spokane, WA.
 16 – Harper Auto Square's Cars & Coffee
 11 – Social
 28 – Drive out to Porsche Experience Center

AUGUST

10 – Social at Boyd's Jig and Reel
 12 – Drive Out to Murphy, NC
 19 – Pontoon's on Cherokee Lake (Vic Rola)

SEPTEMBER

01-04 – Rennfest 2017 (Young Harris GA)
 14-17 – Okteenerfest 2017
 17 – Autocross at Splash Country, Details TBD
 19 – Social at Tanasi Golf Course clubhouse
 20-24 – Drive Out Treffen (Asheville, NC)

OCTOBER

12 – Social
 21 – DE at Little Talladega Raceway
 21 – Leh Keen will be at Harper's with a Safari 911

NOVEMBER

4-5 – Fall Fest: Sunday autocross at Splash Country
 18 – Turkeys in the Trunk

DECEMBER

7 – Social, Christmas party – Southern Depot

2018

JANUARY

TBD – Social TBD
 13 – Board Meeting at Harper Storage

FEBRUARY

TBD – Social TBD
 TBD – Winterfest by the Tennessee Region

MARCH

TBD – Social TBD
 TBD – Spring Autocross at Dollywood

APRIL

14 – Board Meeting at Harper Storage
 TBD – Social TBD
 27-29 – Spring Thing – Greenville, TN

MAY

TBD – Social TBD
 TBD – A Drive out

JUNE

TBD – Social TBD

We will fill out the 2018 calendar soon and update it on the website. If you have any ideas of things you would like to do or see, [please send it in!!](#)

***Please see the Calendar at smtpca.org/calendar/
 for up-to-date information on Region and other events.***

HEARD 'ROUND the ZONE

The Smoky Mountain Region is part of "[Zone 3](#)" of the Porsche Club of America. This zone covers 16 regions within the states of South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and part of Virginia. You can keep up with all the Zone 3 doings with [their calendar](#). To get an overview of "The Zone" please see the [Zone 3 map](#).

Hello all...

ber 21-22. Interested? Register at ...
www.clubregistration.net

OCTOBER

Got back earlier this month from another very successful Rennfest, staged by the Peachstate Region. Over seventy cars participated in what had been predicted to be a wet weekend, but turned out to be gorgeous on both Saturday and Sunday. Good job Peachstate!

Speaking of Rennfest, the Region 'passed the hat' at Rennfest, to assist hurricane victims. The Region matched the donations. A nice check (\$2,380.00) was sent to the PCA Region in Houston, for them to distribute, as they saw need in that area. Again...good job Peachstate!

Treffen Asheville was unbelievable! The Appalachian Region should be beyond proud, in the accomplishment of their part of Treffen Asheville. The Region was complimented by all who attended...from the folks from California, to the folks representing the PCA Executive Council. The numbers...250 cars, 400+ attendees, 25+ tours, 3.5 days, oldest car there...a 1953 pre-A coupe, newest car there a 2017 Targa 4, with 700 miles on the odometer, farthest distance travelled to the event...Hawaii. A very, very successful event. I don't have all the names, but my special thanks to Peter Graham, Region President, and Bob Hermann, Appalachian Region Treffen Committee Chair.

The Alabama Region is hosting a fall DE at Barber Motorsports Park. The event will be held the weekend of Octo-

ber 21-22. Interested? Register at ...
www.clubregistration.net

Next on the agenda ... Petit LeMans, the weekend of October 6, 7, 8, at Road Atlanta. Porsche didn't do too well at Laguna Seca recently, finishing third in class in the GTLM category, and third in the GTD category. Come on to Petit, to see what happens in the final race of the IMSA season!

NOVEMBER

Right off the top, I'd like to thank Bob Kuchenbecker of the Peachstate Region, for once again stepping up, and managing our volunteer efforts at the 2017 Petit LeMans. PCA works closely with Porsche AG, PCNA, and IMSA, in providing a Porsche Platz at Road Atlanta, each year. I believe that this year's volunteer effort was the best in years! Thank you Porsche Platz volunteers!!!

The 10-hour race at Road Atlanta marked the final event in the 11-round IMSA season, and Porsche was more than pleased to finish out their season with a pair of endurance championships, plus a pair of 911 GT3 Rs on the GTD class podium, and Porsche factory ace LMP1 driver, Brendon Hartley, sharing the overall victory in a privateer entry prototype. Even without any of their cars finishing on the top step of the podium, there was plenty for Porsche to celebrate this weekend in Hall County, Georgia. They fell just short of the manufacturer's title, losing to Ford by just a few points. Furthermore, Porsche can be proud of the car they produced for the 2017 season,



HEARD 'ROUND the ZONE (continued)

from scratch, that saw its first victory, and a total of five podiums from 11 rounds. That's nothing to shout down for a brand new racer. This article was taken from the website ... thedrive.com

With 2018 bearing down on us with great speed, two national events come to mind you might want to consider going to. The Porsche Parade will be at the Tan-Tara Resort in the Lake of the Ozarks area of Missouri – 07.08-14.18. Rennsport Reunion VI takes place at Laguna Seca, 09.27-30.18. Both of these events are generously described in the latest issue of 'e-brake news', on line.

I joined some twenty-five members of my home Region, Smoky Mountain, in helping our local Porsche dealership, Harper Porsche, welcome Leh Keen, his car, and three more of his made-to-order 'Safari 911' cars. Leh has many, many race credits (and podium finishes) to his name, including LeMans, Daytona, Atlanta, Nurburgring, and Sebring. His latest venture, the Keen Project, transforms early 80's 911SC's into Safari 911 cars. Look up his name or the Keen Project to take a look at his novel creations. Thank you's go out to Tom Harper of Harper Porsche, Bill Johnson, and in general, the staff of the dealership, and the three owners of the other Safari 911's that were shown, in their warm welcome of Porsche/PCA enthusiasts, that Saturday morning!

DECEMBER

We have a new PCA Club Race in 2018, in Zone 3. Peachstate Region is the host, but this time not at Road Atlanta rather at Barber Motorsports Park, in Birming-

ham. The date of this second Club Race, is May 18-20, 2018. The Club Race at Road Atlanta is scheduled for April 06-08.2018. Peachstate will therefore be hosting two Club Races in 2018!

The 2018 Zone 3 calendar is filling up fast. If you/your Region have a special event you'd like for me to include in my Heard 'Round the Zone mailing, get them to me! The PCA National Winter Board Meeting is scheduled for 02.09-11.18, in Columbia, MD. As of this writing, Tennessee Regions' Winterfest is still up in the air, based upon negotiations with the VW plant in Chattanooga. In previous years, Winterfest is held in close proximity to Valentines Day. The Zone 3 Presidents meeting is to be scheduled, based on the Winterfest event date. Smoky Mountain Regions' Spring Thing is historically the last full weekend of April, making that events' date to be 04.27-29.18, at the General Morgan Inn, Greeneville, TN.

Two big non-PCA events coming up right after the holidays...The Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona (01.27-28.18), and then the Concours at Amelia Island (Werks Reunion East) (03.09-11.18). Make plans...I am...

And...don't forget the 2018 Porsche Parade...Land of the Ozarks in Missouri. July 08-14, 2018. Hotel registration opens 01.29.18, whereas event registration opens 04.02.18. Keep your eye on www.pca.org.

Will be making a regional holiday party (or two), in December...

Safe travels to all... Vic Rola, Zone 3 Representative



Summer Autocross 2017, Dollywood

September 17, 2017

He had Good Autocross that day, good weather, and good fun. Rick set up a long 60-70 second course, long on long stretches, so the four-doors did well too. Fun watching a Panamera get sideways.



See [all the pix here!](#)



The New 911T

Porsche Makes One for the Purists..

Porsche has doubled down on a purist pleaser, with the new Carrera T.



A throwback to the 911 T from 1968 ("T" as in Touring, not Turbo), it features many of the back-to-basics ingredients seen in the new 911 GT3 Touring pack and the collectible 911 R.

The Carrera T has same twin-turbo 3.0-liter flat-six found in the base model, good for 370 horsepower and 339 lb-ft of torque. The main appeal may be its curb weight of 3,135 pounds: lightweight glass in the side and rear windows, fabric interior door straps, and a deleted infotainment system and rear seats. This is the skinniest 911 one can buy.

Porsche's active suspension system, sports exhaust, and Sport Chrono package are standard. Rear-axle steering and a PDK transmission can also be had, as optional extras. Yes, PDK is an option: you got your six speed, oar rowers.

Impressive specs (0-60 @4.3, 180 mph, skid pad grip), and great subtle good looks, this should top any Porsche fan's wish list (hint, hint).



DRIVER EDUCATION OCTOBER 2017

October 21, 2017 – “Little Talladega” Raceway

Many thanks to Rick Brooksbank and all the instructors and crew that helped run this show. We took over the Talladega Grand Prix Speedway Saturday, and had a great turnout: 14 Novices, five Intermediates, and four Advanced drivers. The instructors worked well with our Novices, teaching “smoothness brings speed”, and even the weather turned out for us. We had three sessions for each class, and even the instructors got to run their cars.

This great 1.4-mile track offered a great way to really get to know our Porsches! It has lots of runoff and is very safe with nice facilities, and is challenging and instructive course. We had great fun, good camaraderie, and enjoyed scenic drives there and back in spite of all the “fun” interstate travel can be.

Check out the [pix on the website](#) for more.

Also, John Kernodle, an automotive photographer, was there, so if you want some great pix, check out his website:

<http://www.kernodle.photography/>



FALL FEST DRIVE OUT November 4, 2017

This year's Fall Fest featured a classic, one commanded by The Leaves. And The Leaves did not disappoint. Though it was a little foggy at the meetup, by the time we hit got near the Cherohola Skyway, the fog had lifted, temps were fine, and the scenery was magnificent.

We topped out at the Lakeview Overlook, as did many other car clubs: Corvette Club, E30 Club, BMW Club, Harley Clubs, even a Dodge Charger Club. We quickly retreated lakeside at the Indian Boundary Campground for more piece and quiet, and more leaf seeing.

After we traced our tracks back, we headed off to the Chophouse for Dinner. Good food, good friends, good drink and good times.

More pix? [HERE!](#)



FALL FEST AUTOCROSS November 5, 2017

Once again, we descended on Dollywood Splash Country's parking lot, and set up another killer course... so much so we ran out of cones! It was a 60-70 second lapper, with a couple of "Chef's Choice" elements to keep it interesting. We had some new folks and some returning folks, and all had a great time and improved their lap times through the runs. See [some pix here](#).

"Motion to purchase more club cones..." "SECOND!"



TURKEYS IN THE TRUNK

November 18, 2017

We held our first annual "Turkeys in the Trunk" charity event, supporting both the Salvation Army and the Knox Area Rescue Ministries in their effort to collect food for the Thanksgiving season. Members stuffed turkeys and other non-perishable Thanksgiving type food items in the trunk, passenger seat, floor boards or wherever there is space inside a Porsche. We drove our stuffed Porsches to Harper's about lunchtime and had a weigh-in. (Side note: careful with the speed bumps, that food does lower the car a bit). The members who brought the most food won some really nice prizes donated by Harpers.

The competition had some guidelines. First, the food has to be loaded in a Porsche. Secondly, we will have separate 2-door and 4-door categories for the heavyweight competition. And the winners were...

- * Harry and Teresa in the 4-door class
- * Rich and Wendy in the 2-door class

Congrats to the winners, thanks to all who participated, and many, many Thanks to Bob and Penne for putting this together. Final tally was a ton (literally) of food, and \$700!! See some more [photos on the website](#).

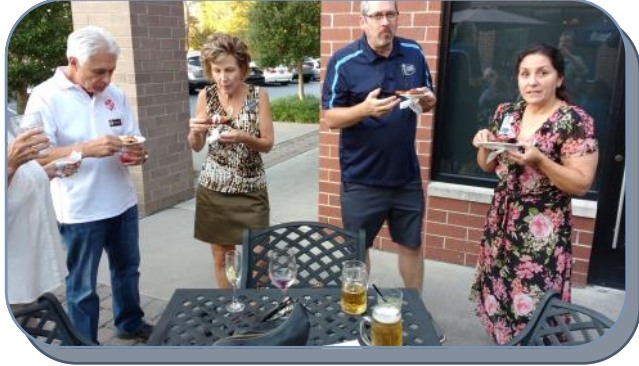
And of course, it would not be a PCA event without food and good times, so we had an informal lunch after the event at the Parkside Grill just down the street. This will definitely be an event in The Rotation! And we [even made the news!!](#)



PCA MONTHLY SOCIALS

Our Socials are always a big hit, allowing members to mingle, chat, eat, and introduce newcomers to the club and our members. Remember: it's the people, not the cars!

In September, we braved the rain to meet and greet at the Tanasi Golf Course clubhouse. As usual, the place and the food delivered.



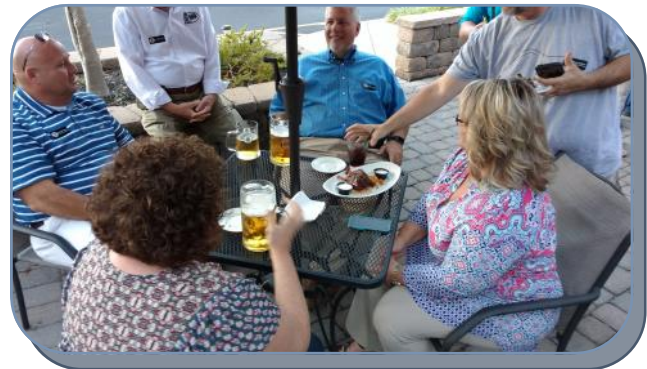
In October we hit the Restaurant Linderhof, and after a few hiccups got the party started. The weather was great, so we took over the patio.

The Fall Fest Drive Out Dinner was our November Social, and great fun was had by all.



The annual Holiday Social will be held December 7th at The Southern Depot, and this one is more formal (but not too formal) than usual, so break out the good stuff! All the details are [available on the website](#).

REMEMBER: Please RSVP for the socials. On occasion we've had to scramble to make room for the "Bumper Crops" we've had.



PORSCHE NEWS AND TIDBITS...

Check out the [Harper Porsche eZine Preview Issue November 2017](#). Lots of Inventory and latest news.



PCA Spotlight: [Intermediate shaft and IMS bearing explained](#). The 26-minute video above is the first and explains what an IMS assembly is, where it resides in the engine, and how it changed through the years. Enjoy!

PCA members, it's the time of year for the [Fall 2017 Member Only Raffle](#)! PCA will be giving away two grand prizes, a Porsche 911 plus \$25,000 cash. As with all PCA Member Only Raffles, there's a chance to add more grand prizes

dependent on ticket sales.

Annnnnnnnnndddd... They have added a THIRD grand prize Porsche 911!!



Hans Lapine and Eric Shea stop by Jay Leno's garage to talk 914 history with Jay and to test drive [Eric's 1974 Porsche 914-6 GT](#) tribute car.

Porsche 924 Is Found Wrecked By a Cliff 27 Years Later: Nearly three decades after being reported missing, a classic Porsche [has been discovered at the base of a cliff](#) near Crater Lake National Park, Oregon.

