

# *Smoke Signals*

***Smoky Mountain Region Porsche Club of America***

***June 2009***

## **Cars & Coffee, May 2:**

Well, it rained for the first time at the European Auto Garage event, Cars & Coffee. Never the less, the turnout was pretty good. I have no pictures because my camera went on the fritz, but I am sure you can see some pictures on the EAG website, [europeanautogarage.com](http://europeanautogarage.com). Several of our members attended, including my self as well as Miles and Larry Slattery, as well as others. This is a great event, you can see a wide variety of cars and you can spend the morning talking cars. What could be better. The next Cars & Coffee is scheduled for July 11. Be sure to attend; it is a fun and interesting event.

## **Bob Southerland Retires**

Bob Southerland, a member of the region for many years, has hung up his grocer's apron and joined the ranks of the retired. Bob spent 53, yes 53 years, with Food City Stores. Bob lives in Greeneville, TN and has been active in the club for a number of years. For more information on Bob's retirement, go to <http://shoppernewsnow.com/news/052509HallsB.pdf>.

I am sure that all in the region join me in wishing Bob all the best in his retirement. This should allow him more time for PCA events.

## **Quilt Festival/Drive Out**

Several club members gathered in Oak Ridge on May 16 for the Quilt Festival, Drive out, and Tech Session. Unfortunately, the Wheel Doctor could not make it but the good news was that the weather was clear with no rain. I understand it rained in Knoxville. I guess you can't always believe the weather people. We met at Pellissippi State for the Quilt Festival in the late morning and then proceeded to the Buffalo Mountain Grill in Oak Ridge for lunch.

The food was excellent; most people got brave and tried some different types of lunch. The Buffalo Mountain Grill offers such burgers as Ostrich, Buffalo, Wild Boar, and of course several types of beef burgers. They also have some really good Sweet Potato Fires.

Patty Ashworth put together this event and she did a great job. After lunch we split into two groups and some drove the Devil's Triangle and some did a shorter route down Hwy 95 towards Lenoir City. Some really good roads.

A really fun day. We need to do it again.

## **Brunch At Lakeside Tavern**

Club members met at Lakeside Tavern on Northshore Drive on Sunday May 17 for brunch. This restaurant has a great spread and the food was great. We had about 22 people attend and the rest of the restaurant was packed. This event was organized by Mary Nell Biehler and she did a great job. We gathered at about 10:30 and enjoyed the food and fellowship. We plan on repeating this event later in the summer. Sorry no photos, my camera was broken.

## **May 31 Smoky Mountain/European Auto Garage Auto X**

The 2nd SMT PCA/European Auto Garage autocross was another great event. The weather was spectacular, and we had 39 cars registered, with almost a third of those entries being Porsche's. What a GREAT turn out.

We split into two run groups, and with the new timing system, despite our still having to iron out a few minor wrinkles, we managed 8 (count'em, eight!!) runs apiece. With the first car off a few minutes late at 11.15, and a 40 minute lunch break, we were still finished by around 2.30! We were wrapped, up, cleaned up, with trailer packed, and drinking a cool one by 3.30! Shorter courses and the new 2 car timer really help. They mean less time spent out on the course in the hot sun, and make it easier for novices to navigate the course. The course mixed in a variety of technical sections with fast sweepers and a long downhill slalom. If you haven't been to an autocross this year, you really need to come and try it!

In the Porsche event, fastest time of the day in Porsche Men's was Jonathan Foulds in the 71 911 RSR Clone. Things were not looking good at first, after the drivers door flew open on the RSR during a test run of the track during track set up, breaking the door stop, and putting a fair sized crease in the door as it went beyond its limits! The latch couldn't be fixed at the event, and was about to put a damper on Jonathan & Bonne's day until Vic Rola produced a couple of bungee cords from the trailer to hold the door shut. With the outside door handle bungee'd to the roll bar, they were ready to go! With the door problem resolved for the time being, and Bonne and Jonathan swapping in and out of the car through the passenger side, Jonathan managed a FTD time of 33.623, with Bonne not far behind with a time of 34.233 and second overall. In men's Miles Slattery came in 3rd with a 34.469, being pipped by his father Larry in the same car, with a very quick 34.338, experience won out this time Miles!!

Continued on Page 3

## 2009 Officers

### President

Jim Marsh  
865-356-9107  
[smtpres@comcast.net](mailto:smtpres@comcast.net)

### Vice President

Mike Parker  
865-579-9001  
[rmp964@comcast.net](mailto:rmp964@comcast.net)

### Secretary

Suzan Bowman  
865-579-9001  
[rmp964@comcast.net](mailto:rmp964@comcast.net)

### Treasurer

Clyde Peery  
865-719-6124  
[cpeery@mac.com](mailto:cpeery@mac.com)

### Past President

Vic Rola  
865-470-2935  
[vicrola@knology.net](mailto:vicrola@knology.net)

### Board Members

Bob Hutchins  
423-690-4811  
[hutchib@knology.net](mailto:hutchib@knology.net)  
Tom McConnell  
865-482-3746  
[ttmcconnell@comcast.net](mailto:ttmcconnell@comcast.net)  
Hansjoerg Goeritz  
865-573-3786  
[privat@hansjoerggoeritz.com](mailto:privat@hansjoerggoeritz.com)

## Upcoming Events

6/18/09: Thursday Night at Sonic

6/27/09: PCA Show Off:  
Food City, Lenoir City.

6/29-7/4: Porsche Parade;  
Keystone, CO.

## Appointed Chairpersons

### Autocross

Rick Brooksbank  
865-376-2720  
[brooks944@comcast.net](mailto:brooks944@comcast.net)

### Webmaster

Greg DeBord  
865-537-1440  
[greg@debordsystems.com](mailto:greg@debordsystems.com)

### Membership

Vickie Marsh  
865-604-2121  
[blue930@comcast.net](mailto:blue930@comcast.net)

### Safety/Technical

Jeff Russell  
865-712-6253

### Goodie Store

Tim Carpenter  
865-983-6555  
[carten@msn.com](mailto:carten@msn.com)

### Spring Thing

Vic Rola  
865-470-2935  
[vicrola@knology.net](mailto:vicrola@knology.net)

### Newsletter

Open

### Awards

Open

### Social Events

Cathy Hutchins 865-690-4811  
Mary Nell Bieler 865-980-9181

### Pano Correspondent

Open

### Historian

Warren Sylvester  
865-470-8238

### Publicity

Open

## From The President

Happy June;

We had a pretty busy May with some great events. You can look for more information in this newsletter. The June edition of Smoke Signals will be our second printed version for the year. Many thanks to our sponsors for making this possible. Publishing a newsletter is an expensive proposition for a car club and relies on support from advertisers. Be sure and support these companies and thank them for their support.

I will send this out in a weekly update but I need some input from the membership on an issue. Please think about this and let me know your thoughts. Remember that this is your club and it's activities should reflect your interests.

The subject is Autocross. We had a very successful Smoky Mountain Region/European Auto Garage Autocross on May 31 with 39 drivers. The only issues were that there were only 12 PCA drivers and the rest came from SCCA drivers. As much as I appreciate the support from the SCCA people, I wonder why more of our PCA members don't come to the autocross. I have been told that there are some or many members that would like a PCA only autocross. Is this true?

Here is what you will see in the survey, which will probably come before you get this newsletter.

1. Would you like to see PCA only Autocrosses? Yes, No, Does not matter.
2. If we had PCA only autocrosses, would you come? Yes, No.

I will have an article on this subject later in the newsletter.

## Advertising Rates

### Rates Per Issue for Printed Issues

Business Card	\$ 12.00	2" X 3 1/2"
Quarter Page	\$ 35.00	3 5/8" X 4 7/8"
Half Page	\$ 70.00	7 1/2" X 4 7/8"
Full Page	\$ 115.00	7 1/2" X 10"

### Website Advertising

Banner Ad linking to Your Website:  
\$ 50 for 12 month

**Smoke Signals** is published monthly by the Smoky Mountain Region of the Porsche Club of America (PCA). Opinions expressed in *Smoke Signals* are those of the contributor(s), and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Smoky Mountain Region officials, directors, or members, or those of the PCA. We reserve the right to edit all material as may be necessary. Comments, suggestions, articles, and photos are welcome.



Rick Brooksbank working the start at May 31 Auto X



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#### May 31 Autocross Report:

David Elias pulled it out at the end with a very respectable best time of 35.761 in his 997S, despite an early couple of dnf's. A great time for a stock car on street tires.

Newsom Baker in his lovely 993 gets better every time and looked great on course. Jeff Russell and girlfriend Shirley entered in the 82 Targa and ran well. Other Porsche entries were Cos Constantinou, JD Daniels in his recently acquired 77 Euro 911, Bob Hutchins in his black Boxster, and Rick Brooksbank in the 951. Jonathan's son also ran in his Honda Civic "slushy", and Valentino Constantinou decided he simply wasn't going to run Cos's '73 911 with different colored wheels, so he ran in his Audi A4 1.8T instead - hey, it's almost a Porsche!

In the non-Porsche category the competition was really tight, with Eric Lewis taking top honors on his last run in the yellow Corvette Z06 in ASP with a time of 32.427 (before that last run, his girlfriend Brittany was ahead of him in the same car with a time of 32.772!) David Disney came in second with a very close 32.448 in his well sorted Miata, followed by Stuart Gibson in the Mustang GT with a time of 32.613. With less than 4/10ths between the top four cars and several others in the 33's, it was a close contest.

Remember, these times are just raw times. For championship points the SCCA class are awarded points on PAX times, a handicapping system used by SCCA on a national and local level, designed to level the playing field. We are using a similar system for the SMT PCA/European Auto Garage Challenge Series, called Porsche Autocross Series Modifier, or PASM for

short! This means that the car with the most HP doesn't necessarily win, and opens up the championship to a wider variety of possible winners than in previous years, where to many, the winner was almost a foregone conclusion.

For full results keep an eye on the autocross section on the website at [www.smt pca.org](http://www.smt pca.org).

At the event, many members and non-Porsche folks asked about our next event, which is not until July, and asked if we could do another one in June too. We will be looking at June dates, and will keep you posted on the possibility of another event. We have also had inquiries about another autocross school, and are considering an event with no more than 15 people. With 5 instructors, and three run groups, each student would get a dedicated instructor for his entire set of runs, meaning a lot more one-on-one time than the first school we did earlier in the year. If you are interested in attending a Porsche only autocross school later in the year, let me know by emailing me at [jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com](mailto:jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com). Thanks for all those that attended the autocross this weekend, and for all the helpers that made this another fun and safe event.

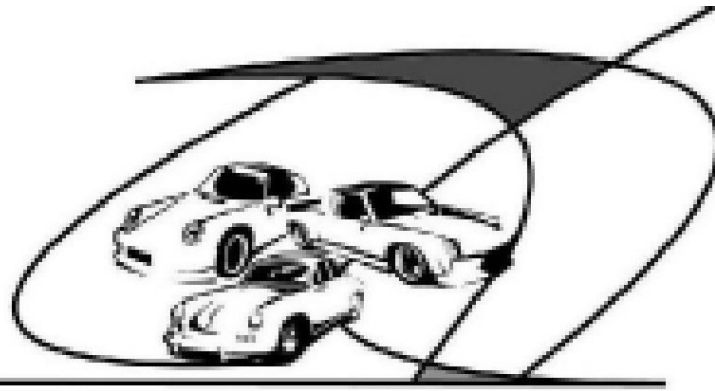
Jonathan Foulds



Autocross Attendees



SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION CALENDAR 2009			
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	COMMENTS
6/13/2009	Cars & Coffee	European Auto Garage; 227 Sherway Rd, Knoxville	Contact EAG at 865-862-5270
6/14/2009	SCCA Autocross	To Be Announced	Check <a href="http://www.etrscga.org">www.etrscga.org</a> for details
6/18/2009	Thursday Night at Sonic	Sonic Drive In; 8475 Kingston Pike	Informal Get Together; meet at 6:30 PM and socialize
6/27/2009	PCA Show Off	Food City, Hwy 321, Lenoir City, TN	10 AM- 2 PM Come show off your car Contact Jim Marsh for details
6/28/2009	SCCA Autocross	To Be Announced	Check <a href="http://www.etrscga.org">www.etrscga.org</a> for details
6/29-7/4 2009	Porsche Parade	Keystone, CO	Registration March 3,4,5
7/12/2009	SCCA Autocross	To Be Announced	Check <a href="http://www.etrscga.org">www.etrscga.org</a> for details
7/13/2009	Membership/Executive Council Meeting	Mancino's Restaurant 9209 Middlebrook Pike Knoxville TN	Meeting Starts at 6:30 PM, Arrive early to eat; All Members Welcome
7/16/2009	Thursday Night at Sonic	Sonic Drive In; 8475 Kingston Pike	Informal Get Together; meet at 6:30 PM and socialize
7/25/2009	PCA Autocross	Pellissippi State	Registration 8 AM-10AM, First Car Off at 11AM. Pre register with Jonathan Foulds at <a href="mailto:jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com">jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com</a>
8/2/2009	SCCA Autocross	To Be Announced	Check <a href="http://www.etrscga.org">www.etrscga.org</a> for details
8/8/2009	PCA Autocross	PSTCC	Registration 8 AM-10AM, First Car Off at 11AM. Pre register with Jonathan Foulds at <a href="mailto:jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com">jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com</a>
8/20/2009	Thursday Night at Sonic	Sonic Drive In; 8475 Kingston Pike	Informal Get Together; meet at 6:30 PM and socialize
8/23/2009	SCCA Autocross	Walters State CC	Check <a href="http://www.etrscga.org">www.etrscga.org</a> for details
9/4,5,6 2009	Rennfest	Atlanta, GA	Peachstate Region Event
9/20/2009	SCCA Autocross	To Be Announced	Check <a href="http://www.etrscga.org">www.etrscga.org</a> for details
10/4/2009	PCA Autocross	Pellissippi State	Registration 8 AM-10AM, First Car Off at 11AM. Pre register with Jonathan Foulds at <a href="mailto:jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com">jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com</a>
10/11/2009	SCCA Autocross	Walters State CC	Check <a href="http://www.etrscga.org">www.etrscga.org</a> for details
10/12/2009	Membership/Executive Council Meeting	Mancino's Restaurant 9209 Middlebrook Pike Knoxville TN	Meeting Starts at 6:30 PM, Arrive early to eat; All Members Welcome
10/24/2009	2010 Planning Meeting	Mancino's Restaurant 9209 Middlebrook Pike Knoxville TN	Bring your ideas. All members attend, let's plan next year. 11 AM to 2 PM- Have Lunch
10/17,18 2009	Talladega DE	Talladega, AL	Jonathan Foulds
11/1/2009	SCCA Autocross	Pellissippi State	Check <a href="http://www.etrscga.org">www.etrscga.org</a> for details



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SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION PCA

Social Meet at **Sonic Drive-IN**

8475 Kingston Pike Kingston Pike and Walker Springs

June 18th, 2009

6:30 p.m.

*Meet for dinner, if you want,  
or a shake, or coke and  
some good car talk.*



We are going to do this event every 3rd Thursday in June, July, August.

## Update Your Records

Have you changed phone numbers, moved, or have any changes in your information?

Log into [www.pca.org](http://www.pca.org), log in and update your membership information.

This will insure we have your correct information on file. It's simple and just takes a minute or two.

Thanks for your attention to this matter. If you have any problems, give me a call. JM

## Tech Corner

**Classification:** Engine

**Subject:** 1987 930 Boost gauge dancing

**Model:**

**Year:** 1987

**Total Mileage:** 45,250

**Car Use:** Street only

### Question:

Hi Steve,

I have a 1987 930 that I bought last year. Car is very nice and not abused. It came with a k27 hiflo turbo BB headers and a Kolken? Intercooler, 1. bar spring, and a top end engine rebuild all at 39,800 miles. I have been having a problem with 2 things. One of which I thought my mechanic had fixed and now it's back again.

Here is what's going on.

At idle the factory boost gauge in lower part of tach. is dancing around the .4 on the gauge. Not all the time. We replaced the boost control sensor and car ran great for about 500 miles. NOTE- I never redline this car and shift at 5,000rpms tops. A few times the boost gauge at idle would peg at the 1. bar and the car will stall. Then I could not even start the car.

We then sent out the Tach/boost to be rebuilt and put a new boost sensor in and I drove car today for first time (Car idles smooth and runs great) but after 10 miles boost gauge started flickering around I'm afraid it's going to leave me stranded again. The boost gauge is still dancing at idle sometimes and it even pegged to 1. bar/for a bit, I rev up the engine sitting parked and it came off the 1. bar it did not stall. I have read all the Tech Q-A and see some interesting points about wires grounds. fuel cut offs. Can you give me your best guess on what is going on. Other ? is the car seems to run rich. Not smoking but it stinks when behind by exhaust pipe. strange smell.

Any input would be very helpful.

Thank you VERY VERY much. EJ

### Answer:

Sure thing....the Kolkeln has a tendency to sit in a manner that the grommet shield the studs and make a shoddy ground. The over boost sensor and the boost gauge sensor both rely on a ground resistance signal. If this is weak and/or missing the gauge will peg to full 1 bar and the over boost switch will open up assuming that the car is over boosting and cut the fuel pumps. Sound familiar?

Run a dedicated ground from the case to the intercooler somewhere. You can tag several areas on there with studs etc just make certain that it is not under a grommet and rests directly on the intercooler. This should cure your problem.

## Tech Corner

### Ring & Pinion

**Question:** I'm looking to purchase a high mileage 2001 turbo with 112,000. The owner told me one of the items that require future service is the ring and pinion. He states it's currently whining a little. His mechanic told him that it does not need a ring and pinion right away but in another 30k or when the whining gets louder. I called around town to see what it will take to fix this issue. One shop told me R&R of transmission then he would need to send out to have it rebuilt. Another states the ring & pinion can be replaced on this car without R&R of transmission. What's the right answer? How much will this cost? What could be uncovered if I get a PPI?

Let me know when they replace the ring & pinion with the transmission still in the car. I will drive to Chicago in my Boxster (about a 620 mile drive), so I can watch and learn. Seriously, run away from there as fast as you can. Half of the transmission is built on the pinion shaft. And the pinion shaft occupies space in all three housings. It is not going to happen. You must not only remove the transmission, but rebuild it completely. Part of that process includes taking some very precise measurements to correctly shim the new ring & pinion. Otherwise you will be right back again with the same problem only much faster the second time.

**Answer:** Do not drive the car until this gets worse. If any pieces of metal start to come off, they will destroy the transmission gears, bearings, and oil pump. A replacement trans for this car was listed by a national dismantler last week for around \$7500, not rebuilt, just used and as-is. A new one is maybe twice that, while a rebuild might be half that, but only if done before big damage occurs.

Now this model has all-wheel-drive. So there is a second ring & pinion in the car, up front, to drive the front axles. That one could be changed without removing the transmission. It is in its own housing which can be removed and serviced by itself.

What you need to do is find an experienced Porsche shop. If it is a little further, do it, it will be well worth it. Then have them go through the car. This model is not bad compared to other modern Porsche cars, but don't think you can own this car without becoming good friends with a good Porsche Tech, or becoming one yourself the hard way.

Definitely get the PPI done by an experienced Porsche tech. Many things are possible. See previous Q&A for some of the many answers to this question.

All that being said, at the right price I recommend this model, it is a tremendous car and a great achievement by Porsche.



Cars in staging at autocross





Miles Slattery working the scoreboard

## Der Market

**For Sale...**Stainless steel (B+B) exhaust system for '76-'89 911 turbo. No issues...replaced it with original system for concours purposes. \$1,000.00. Contact Jim Marsh @ 865.356.9107

**For Sale...**'S' type fiberglass bumper for '69-'73 911. Bumper only-no trim. TN orange in color. \$150.00. Contact Vic Rola @ 865.207.4303.

**For Sale...**1994 Porsche 968 Tiptronic Black/Gray. 106K well maintained miles. Great Driver (everything works). Could use some cosmetic TLC and have many extras for car. One set gray leather seats for 968-Excellent Condition. One set black vinyl seats for 924-Excellent condition. Various mm sway bars for 924/944. (used for autocross). Tires: Bridgestone 205/50 ZR17 (S-02) & 255 40 ZR17 off 968, 50% wear. 4-15" 5 bolt Spider Web wheels mounted with 4 Yokohama A-008R 225/50 ZR-15 tires used for autocross & Street off 924. Contact Janet Lanz-Pasha (865)986-0931



For Sale: 1988 Carrera 911 Coupe...ONLY 96K Miles. Flawless White. No Dents, No Dings. Whale tail, G-40 5 Speed. Blue Leather. Like New Tires and Brakes (Approx 4 K) Many Upgrades Including New Fuel Lines, New Oil Lines,, Replaced Rear Axle Seals, New Piston Rings, Valve Job, New Valve Guides, New Clutch And Disc, With All Porsche Upgrades On Clutch Shaft, Release Arm, 930 Steering Wheel, New Bosch Battery, much more. Over \$ 8,600 in an excellent car. This Fine 911 can be yours for \$ 24,900  
CALL CHARLIE TAYLOR 865-691-2138 OR E-MAIL [chas-bax@knology.net](mailto:chas-bax@knology.net)

*Der Market is a free service to PCA members. Send your ads to either the club president or newsletter editor.*

## Job Market

The Smoky Mountain Region currently has several important positions open. Short hours and top pay. Current positions available include:.

**Awards Chairperson:** The region is in need of an individual to order and secure various awards for region events. Several sources are already known, it is just a matter of a person taking responsibility for securing the awards. This person would work with sponsors on the awards to be given for various events.

**Publicity Chairperson:** This individual would be responsible for securing publicity for various club events, such as Spring Thing, drive outs, and other functions. Top pay for the right person.

**Contact Jim Marsh For Details on these Opportunities!!!**



Jonathan Foulds and Jim Marsh working the timing system at May 31 Autocross.



Autocross Attendees prepping their cars  
For the May 31 event.

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## Membership Report

Summer is here and our membership is still growing thanks to you! Janis Berry, a new member, and one of our sponsors, has already gotten us one new member. Thanks Janis! If you haven't met Janis and Rick stop by their shop Eurotech Knoxville or you will probably see them at one of our drive-outs or brunches. They are looking for a car to autocross.

Out membership Stands now at 173 primary member, 134 affiliate members for a total of 307 members.

Welcome to our new members: Michael and Donna Corum of Powell who own a 2001 Black Boxter. Their email is corum-mike@gmail.com.

Keith and Harold Enloe of Asheville, N.C. drives a 1986 black 911. Their email is kenloe@fastpivot.com

We have two new members that have transferred in from other regions.

Joseph Collins comes from Peachstate. He owns a white 2008 Cayman S. His email is joeycollins@harperdealerships.com  
Richard Mason and Heidi Mire transferred in from Alabama. They drive a red 1985 911. Their email is heidi\_mire@yahoo.com

Please drop these new members an email to welcome them and hopefully they will be at the Sonic or the Food City Show Off this month.

Anniversaries this month are:

David Adams 15 years  
Michele Brandenburg 10 years  
Kendall Brunton 5 years  
Debbie Cooper 10 years  
Mellon Fry 35 years  
Gale Manor 5 years  
Sherry Miller 10 years  
Robert Muir 20 years

Congratulations on your anniversaries and we hope to have you in the club for many year to come.

Vickie

## Economics of Running an Autocross

I would like for the club to be able to have autocrosses with only PCA members. Consider the following: For each event we need a minimum of 10 paying drivers to pay the lot rental plus maybe an extra \$ 10-\$ 20 for incidentals.

From an operational standpoint though, for each run group it takes about 15 people to run the group on the course. That includes corner workers, timing & scoring, starter, and grid and staging people. So the bottom line is that it will take more support from SMT members to make it happen. By the time you get this newsletter, you will receive an email asking for your opinion on this subject. Please take a moment and provide me with some feedback. Thanks Jim



SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION PCA

# Porsche

## Show Off

at the

## Food City Store

Hwy 321, across from Wal-mart, Lenoir City  
Saturday, June 27th  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event is just a show off only, not a concours judging.  
This event will support Smoky Mountain Region's long time corporate sponsor Food City.

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### **You didn't settle when you purchased it. Don't start now.**

Harper Porsche is pleased to announce a special offer to all PCA Smoky Mountain Region members. Present your membership card during your appointment time and receive 10% off all Porsche parts and service. Call 865-691-2834 today to schedule your next service. For any questions ask for Mark Nagle, Porsche Service Advisor.

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PORSCHE

## Improved Aerodynamics, Suspension, Braking Distinguish 2010 GT3



ATLANTA --- January 29, 2009 --- Porsche will launch the fastest, most powerful 911 GT3 to-date at the Geneva Motor Show on March 3, 2009. The high performance GT3 is the latest in the new generation 911 series and carries over a wide range of expertise learned from motorsports – resulting in superb capabilities both on road and on track.

### New Engine

The 2010 Porsche 911 GT3 raises the performance bar thanks to an increase in engine size to 3.8 liters and VarioCam technology now on both the intake and exhaust. The naturally aspirated six-cylinder boxer engine develops 435 bhp, 20 bhp more than its predecessor.

The new, larger engine offers a significant increase in torque at medium engine speeds, which is particularly important for everyday driving. Track performance is also improved; the new GT3 accelerates to 60 mph in 4.0 seconds and reaches a top track speed of 194 mph.

### Improved Suspension

Driving dynamics have also been enhanced, and the new GT3 offers even better grip and stability. Porsche Active Suspension Management (PASM) has enabled Porsche's engineers to make the springs and anti-roll bars stiffer, thus ensuring even more precise handling in sport mode, while retaining a level of comfort suitable for everyday use in normal mode. For the first time, the 911 GT3 comes standard with Porsche Stability Management (PSM), with suspension mapping mirroring that of the GT2. The driver can disengage both stability control and traction control in separate steps.

### Refined Aerodynamics

At high speeds, aerodynamic improvements have increased downforce at both the front and rear, more than doubling the effect of the previous GT3. At the same time, the new aerodynamics package, with larger vents in the front and rear bumpers gives the GT3 a brand-new look, accentuated by standard bi-xenon headlights, LED rear light clusters and modified air intakes and outlets.

### Innovative Engine Mounts

The new GT3 will be available with new and highly innovative dynamic engine mounts. Utilizing magnetic fluid, these inventive mounts automatically stiffen to create a more solid coupling between the engine and chassis when the car is driven energetically. This provides a sporting, rigid assembly on fast bends and winding racetracks yet allows for engine isolation

and increased comfort while driving in everyday traffic. Traction is also improved when accelerating from a standstill.

### Upgraded Brakes

With driving dynamics and performance at an even higher level, the brake system, following a long Porsche tradition, has also been enhanced accordingly. Brake discs are larger and feature an aluminum hub to reduce weight. Increased brake ventilation ensures a high level of brake power over long periods, and the GT3 can also be equipped with PCCB ceramic brakes, developed specifically for this model.

### Creative Front End Lift

A new lift system for the front axle is also available. By utilizing an on-board air compressor, the front of the car can be raised for steep driveways or inclines. The touch of a button raises the front ride height by 30 mm, or 1.18 inches and at speeds up to approximately 30 mph. New, lighter GT3 specific center lock wheels and ultra-high performance tires round out the functional and visual enhancement of the GT3.

The 2010 Porsche 911 GT3 will be available in the fall of 2009, MSRP \$112,200 US.

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## Heard 'Round The Region

Many happy returns to our friend and fellow PCA'er-Bob Southerland who is retiring May 31 from Food City. Bob started with the firm in his youth and moved up to and through several prominent positions in the organization. We're sure that Bob won't run out of things to do however, with wife Sue, his daughters, and grandchildren, lining up for attention. Congratulations Bob...

Great Spring Thing this year! We had a larger turnout than last year, with many new faces. The weather was great! The concours, rallye, and autocross were all at, or near capacity levels. We even made money. Jim Marsh (next year's chair) promises a site announcement soon for the 2010 event.

Congratulations to Debbie Cooper and Bob Berry on the graduation of their son and step son, Timothy, from seminary in Boston, MA and accepting a position as an associate pastor with a church in Thomasville, GA. Timothy and his wife are in the process of closing on their new home in Thomasville.

Vic Rola



## Class, No Class and What's your class? (In autocross that is.)

When you come to an autocross, the first question you are asked is "What is your class?" The PCA car classification system is designed to have cars of like performance grouped together for the autocross. This tends to "even the playing field."

A copy of the autocross rules is posted in the Parade Competition Rules 2009 on the PCA web site for your use. Link here: <http://www.pca.org/Members/DocumentLibrary.aspx> or at [www.pca.org/smt](http://www.pca.org/smt) for only the autocross rules.

The rules are taken from the Parade Competition Rules, 2009 (PCR's). The PCR's are updated every year. The PCR's are the guidelines/rules that PCA uses for Parade, Zone and regional events including autocross, rally and concours.

In autocross, there are 4 categories for competition;

Showroom stock,  
Production,  
Improved,  
Modified.

How do you know the category for your car? The categories are related to your Porsche's configuration based on the changes made to the car. Modified category cars have many changes, whereas the showroom stock category car does not have any changes. First determine your category- is your car the same as on the showroom floor? Have you made any changes to it? Improvements and alterations will cause your car to progress into a more competitive class. The PCR's outline the allowable changes.

Each category is then divided into classes. Example Parade Autocross:

showroom stock contains 12 classes  
production – 17 classes  
improved – 6 classes  
modified - 6 classes.

You must properly class your car. Each entrant must do this. Seek help if you do not know how to class your car. For example, lets say you have a 2000 Boxster S. You will see that the Boxster is listed in all 4 categories; Showroom stock class SO4, Production class P 15, Improved, I 05, and Modified class M 05. You Boxster can be either of the categories, depending upon the changes you (or previous owners) have made to it.

You must classify your car in the appropriate class based on the changes made to it. You may progress up in the category and classes without any penalties, but you cannot move down to a lower category with out being open for disqualification. In other words, if you try to class your car, which has competition tires as a show room stock car, then you may be disqualified.

It is important that you understand the performance improvement allowed for each of the categories. The showroom stock category must have no performance improvement at all. If you add performance enhancement changes whether by the factory, dealer or owner will move the classification of your car to the next highest category.



## The 2009 Smoky Mountain European Auto Garage Autocross Challenge

Join us in 2009 for an exciting autocross challenge series. We will be crowning a Porsche champion and a European car champion. Non Porsche cars will utilize the SCCA PAX system to level the field. This will place the challenge on the driver, not just the car. Here is the schedule:

Date	Event	Location
April 4	PCA Driver School	PSCC
April 5	Open Autocross	PSCC
April 26	Spring Thing Autocross	PSCC
May 31	PCA Autocross	PSCC
July 25	PCA Autocross	PSCC
August 8	PCA Autocross	PSCC
October 4	PCA Autocross	PSCC
November 14	PCA Fall Fest Autocross	PSCC

Other dates may be added, watch your email and the web site for more information.

Cost will be \$ 25 per event, except for the Spring Thing Autocross, which is part of a multi event weekend.

SCCA PAX timing will be used for European autos and a new handicapping system will be used for Porsche cars.

We have upgraded the timing system which will allow us to have multiple cars on the track at a time and we have added an LED display which will show times as you pass the finish line. Times: PCA Autocross registration will open at 8 AM, close at 10 AM, first car off at 11 AM. AM. Register early with Jonathan Foulds at [jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com](mailto:jonathanfoulds@yahoo.com)

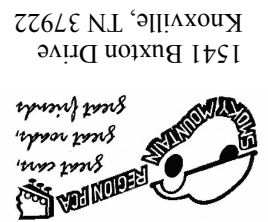
In the categories from production to modified, the participant is allowed to make performance enhancements as listed in the PCR's. Generally, performance enhancements start with selection of competition tires especially for the production category. And then is followed with suspension, transmission and engine modifications. The most cost-effective performance enhancements to your car are the purchase of competition tires for production to improved and modified classes.

The Smoky Mountain region uses the mid-size region classification:

Showroom stock – 4 classes,  
Production – 8 classes,  
Improved – 2 classes,  
Modified - 2 classes.

Take time to review the PCR's and next time you are asked about your class, you will know they are asking about your car category and class and not whether you are high class or no class. Mike Parker





## June Events:

June 18: Thursday Night at Sonic

June 27: Show Off at Lenoir City Food City

June 29-July 4: Porsche Parade-Keystone, CO