

# Smoke Signals

The Official Publication of the Smoky Mountain Region

Porsche Club of America

mar  
2012



# SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION PCA

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Committee

**On the Cover:** a couple of green Porsches in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

**Contributors:** Janis Berry, Suzan Bowman, Greg DeBord, Cliff Killion, Mike Parker, Vic Rola, Steven Schleif

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## From the President:

### Welcome Spring!

First of all, I want to say that I am thrilled with the turnout for last month's Showoff. With almost 50 Porsches in attendance, we had a fantastic turnout with weather to match. We also had a few folks join our region, which is the main reason for the event, so I'd call it a huge success!

Our St. Patty's Day Social will be held on Saturday evening, 3/17, at Puleo's Grille on Merchants Drive at 7:00 p.m. Don't be late as they will only reserve our seating till 7:30 p.m. They are also serving green beer. It should be lots of fun. Our first two monthly socials have had tremendous turnout and I hope it continues. Won't you please join us?

We are also having a driver's clinic on March 24 at Splash Country in Pigeon Forge. This is a great opportunity for you to learn the limits of your car in a controlled environment. Sudden stops, sharp turns and wet conditions are all driving challenges that we face every day. This clinic will help you gain confidence in your car and become more competent behind the wheel. These clinics always prove to be educational with lots of fun!

Once again, I hope to see you at an event soon!

*Janis*

PS: I have had a couple of people contact me regarding changing or adding their e-mail addresses to receive messages from me from time to time. Unfortunately, this has to be done through PCA National and you can contact them at 410-381-0911 to get your user name and password for [www.pca.org](http://www.pca.org). Once you log-in on that site, you can modify or add an e-mail address as well as your other information.

## FROM THE SOCIAL EVENT CHAIR:

I want to start off with a big THANK YOU to everyone that came out to the Great Porsche Show-Off, and CONGRATULATIONS to Ed Clayton for winning People's Choice award with his black 911 Turbo. At last count, there were 47 Porsches at this event. Cars were coming in faster than I could register them!

Participation at our Region's social events is increasing. It is exciting for me to coordinate an event and see so many people enjoying themselves. I enjoy meeting new members (and seeing old ones again) and I hope this trend continues. If you have yet to attend an event this year, please peruse the social calendar and choose an event to attend. I think you will be pleasantly surprised.

I would like to coordinate a drive to Crossville on a Saturday in April, either the 7th or 14th. (scheduled for April 14th. See web site or CALENDAR for info - ed.) We have several members in that area who are unable to attend our events. This event is currently not on the calendar, but please send any comments regarding this to me via e-mail.

If anyone has any comments or suggestions, please let me know at [Cliff.Killion@gmail.com](mailto:Cliff.Killion@gmail.com). I hope to see you at an event soon!

*Cliff*

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### March 17 @ 7:00pm

St. Patrick's Day Social

Puleo's Grille on Merchants Dr

### March 24 @ 10:00am

Autocross School at Splash Country  
in Pigeon Forge

### April 4

Board Meeting

### April 14

Drive to Crossville  
See web site for info

# Tech Session: Tires & Alignment

Hunter Alignment System Area Representative, Steve Smith, provided a new look at the high technology of wheel alignment for your Porsche at the February Tech Session at Euro Tech's new shop in Karns. The new technology displays on screen alignment specifications in 3 Dimensions. This shows the technicians what correction needs to be made to get your Porsche back into correct alignment or change your alignment for autocross and track specifications. The manufacturers specifications are derived from the VIN number of the vehicle so it is customized to your car. It is also quick and easy to set the vehicle on the machine to take the readings compared to older technology. The sensors are easy to put on the wheels and are designed so they will not damage the tires and wheels. They measure caster, tow, camber, and driving force alignment with all alignment to the drive center of the car. When the adjustments are made, the screen brings up photos of that car and shows the technician exactly where to make the adjustment points and what tools to use.

He also spent some time talking about tire wear, alignment and how to read the numbers on the side of your tires and how to know what is the right tire for your car. These numbers also tell you the age of the tires. Any tire that is ten years old, no matter what the tread, may not be safe to drive. And that is especially true for high performance cars, Porsche, BMW, Audi, etc. because they put extra stress on the tires. Many members asked specific questions about their cars and several members' cars were used in the demonstration. One important point to leave you with is that you should check the tread on your tires

at least once a month especially on the inside of the wheel, not just what you can see from the outside. Most high performance cars, the alignment is set with some degree of negative camber, which will wear the inside of the tire quicker. It could save you on the highway some day. Thanks to EuroTech and Steve Smith from Hunter Alignment Systems for a great meeting.

Mike Parker

Photos: Suzan Bowman



# Great Porsche Show-Off



**Photos by:**  
Suzan Bowman  
Greg DeBord  
Cliff Killion



People's Choice award went to Ed Clayton  
and his gorgeous black 911 Turbo.



# It's not too early to make plans to attend **Spring Thing 2012**

at Valley View Lodge in Townsend, TN

**APRIL 27, 28, 29**

**CONCOURS**

**RALLYE**

**AUTOCROSS**



A link to the Online Registration form can be found on the web site or download directly at  
[http://www.smtPCA.org/files/2012SpringThing\\_RegistrationForm.pdf](http://www.smtPCA.org/files/2012SpringThing_RegistrationForm.pdf)

Have you started planning your weekend at Spring Thing yet? You better! It will be here before you know it... April 27-29, 2012.

This year, the event's planning committee chose to move the event back to a location where several very successful events were held in previous years - Townsend, TN. Our host hotel will be the Valley View Lodge. You can make your reservations at 865.448.2237. We've used this hotel before and it offers an excellent venue. Suzan Bowman set up the lodging, and is also setting up the caterer for our Saturday evening banquet.

The concours (with a sponsor yet to be named) will take place on the hotel grounds, and on the grass, barring liquid participation from Mother Nature (!). Historically, we've had a mediocre turn out for the concours, but we urge you to try it out! An excellent opportunity for you to clean up that car of yours, and display it as its proud owner. There will be an area provided for those who just want to 'show' their car, but not for judging. Hopefully you opt to have your car judged.

The TSD rallye will start, after lunch, at the hotel. This year's rallymeister, Clyde Peery, is using a rallye from years past. Although he won't be there for the event due to a year ago set prior commitment, he promises a fun time will be had by all. Our rallye, though a TSD (time-speed-distance), has become one of the most popular events of the weekend. Last year, it was so popular, we had a hard time coming up with workers! But workers we do need. So, if you'd like to help out with the event's management, let someone know. We will need you! The roads for the rallyists should offer many pretty vistas, as well as some challenging roads to navigate.

Our autocross Sunday is back at Splash Country USA, where we did last year's autocross. The drive to the autocross site in Pigeon Forge should take less than 45 minutes but well worth it! The fourteen acre site allows for some great autocrossing! Lunch will be available on site, via the employees there at Splash Country. We'll start the event in the late morning, allowing you to have fun, but yet get away for your trip home with plenty of daylight to spare.

So, in summation... Join us for Spring Thing. One of the few remaining true multi-event weekends in the PCA family. Trust me... you'll have a ball!!! Pre-register with Vic Rola at [vicrola1@gmail.com](mailto:vicrola1@gmail.com).

## JOIN OUR REGION FOR A SMOKIES GAME

Please join us on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. for The Smokies vs Mississippi  
They will have an all you can eat buffet that includes: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Pork BBQ, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Chips, Cookies, Pepsi Products.



### RSVP at your earliest convenience

(Price includes game ticket, meal, cap, sales tax, service and one full size keg)  
(One keg serves about 150 12-oz. servings)

PLEASE NOTE: There are only 24 seats reserved at this time however this can be expanded to 50 seats, but early reservations are crucial. We will have our own private deck located in the outfield!

### To RSVP, contact Cliff with number of guests at:

[Cliff.Killion@gmail.com](mailto:Cliff.Killion@gmail.com) or 865.803.6568



I-40 at EXIT 407

3540 Line Drive Kodak, TN 37764

## **DRIVEOUT TO CROSSVILLE - April 14th**

ATTENTION CROSSVILLE MEMBERS!

We are planning a driveout to Crossville to meet our members in that area for a lunch on Saturday, April 14th. We will gather just outside Knoxville and caravan to Crossville to have lunch at Halcyon Days just off Interstate 40 at Exit 320. Then we will travel back that afternoon. Many of our members in that area cannot make the long trip to Knoxville for most of our region's events, so let's travel to meet them and enjoy the ride along the way. Meeting time and location will be arranged and announced at a later time. Please check the web site for updated information.

RSVP to Keith Kurz at [kurzinutah@msn.com](mailto:kurzinutah@msn.com). We hope to see you there!

## THE SMT PCA WEB SITE NEW FEATURES

**Videos** - submit your Porsche related videos to be shown on the SMT PCA web site. Whether your video is posted on Facebook, YouTube or other video hosting service, simply send me the URL and I will retrieve the necessary code to list on the club site.

**Inline Newsletter** - a bit of "eye candy" but I thought it was cool. Not only are our newsletters available each month in PDF format, but now you can view them online as a "digital book". Click to turn the pages and zoom to full screen. Requires Flash.

**Comments** - I implemented this feature a couple months ago but only a few have taken advantage of it. If you see photos you like or would like to comment about an event or other news article, click on the "Add New Comment" text found below each article. You will have to log in so be sure to set up a user account.

What would you like to see on the web site? I have had a few suggestions that I hope to add in the near future - gallery of members cars and an interactive forum are two of them. Send me your suggestions and I will take them into consideration. Send your suggestions to [smschleif@gmail.com](mailto:smschleif@gmail.com)



## AUTOCROSS NEWS 2012



**March 24** - Autocross School @ 10:00am  
Splash Country in Pigeon Forge

**April 29** - part of Spring Thing activities.  
Autocross will be held on Sunday.

**May 19** - Saturday AutoX at Pellissippi.

**November 11** - final autocross of the  
year will be part of the Fall Fest activities.

For the most up to date info on autocrosses and other  
SMT events, please visit the web site at [smt pca.org](http://smt pca.org)

### *Monthly Social/Dinner Events* *It's not the cars, it's the people.*

**March 17** - Puleo's Grille @ 7:00pm  
Merchants Dr in Knoxville

**April 10** - Sullivan's @ 7:00pm  
Maryville



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