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SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION PCA

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On The Cover:

Images from the Autocross School held at Splash Country in Pigeon Forge, TN. Photos courtesy of Terry Ashworth.

Editorial Contributors: Terry Ashworth, Janis Berry, Vic Rola, Steven Schleif

Advertisers: Eurotech Knoxville: Back Cover • Carol Dockery pg 9, Cindy Doyle pg 9, Weddings by Suzan pg 11, Rich McGowan pg 11

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

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From the President



April's schedule includes a driveout to Crossville, a monthly social in Maryville and our Region's annual Spring Thing event.

Members in Maryville please take time to join us at Sullivan's for the monthly social. It is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, at 7:00 p.m. Hope to see you there!

We have several members in Crossville who cannot make the drive to Knoxville for many of our events. It's time for us to get to know them! The driveout is scheduled for Saturday, April 14. We will meet and drive down to Crossville for lunch then return back in the afternoon. Details will be on our website.

Spring Thing 2012 will be held in beautiful Townsend, Tennessee. It includes a concours event on Saturday morning, a rally on Saturday afternoon and an autocross on Sunday in Pigeon Forge. Members from other regions routinely attend this event hosted by our region. If you haven't had an opportunity to attend Spring Thing yet, I would recommend that you try it. In addition to the beautiful cars, there are so many friendly people who share the Porsche passion and it is a wonderful chance to meet old friends and make new ones.

Lastly, we have a Smokies ballgame scheduled for Saturday evening, June 9. RSVP's are required and it is requested that you let Cliff know ASAP. He is trying to finalize the number of attendees. We currently have 24 spots only, but if we fill those spots, we can raise the number to 50 and reserve the entire outfield deck. Event is \$30 per person for all-you-can-eat barbeque, hamburgers, and hot dogs. Beer will be served too. RSVP to cliff.killion@gmail.com.

There are some fun events scheduled this month so please try to join us. I hope to see you soon!



HEARD 'ROUND the REGION

Well, as of today, we've got 14 cars signed up for Spring Thing! Now's the time if you haven't done so already!

The autocross school went great. All but one of the 'students' were true novices...and they had a ball! Wish I coulda been there.

Congrats to one of our Regions' moms, whose daughter recently got married. Congrats to Katie and Aaron Morrow...and of course Mom...Carol Rola.

Have you seen the road test of the 991 ... the most recent and newest 911? Interesting, as it was hosted by Patrick Dempsey, a Porsche enthusiast, and owner of the Dempsey Racing organization, who campaign the Mazda margue in the Rolex GT series.

See you at Spring Thing... Vic Rola

Upcoming Events

April 4 @ 6:30pm Board Meeting at Eurotech Knoxville

April 10 @ 7:00pm Monthly Social/Dinner @ Sullivan's in Maryville

April 14 - Drive to Crossville

Meet fellow PCAers from the Crossville area after an enjoyable drive from Knoxville.

April 27, 28, 29 - Spring Thing in Townsend Join us for a full weekend of PCA events including a Concours, Rallye, and Autocross (not to mention the socializing).

AUTOCROSS SCHOOL

Article and Photos by Terry Ashworth

Patty and I were there with our new (to us) 997 Turbo which we had picked up from Harpers less than 24 hours before. Our previous forays at SMTPCA autocross events had been in our black Cayman S. The Turbo promised to be a whole new experience.

The day began with the tech inspection of the cars. Wheel bolts were checked and all flying objects were removed from the cabins. The loose nut behind each steering wheel was allowed to stay however. It seems all those wheel bolts were tight as nobody lost a wheel during the day.

The exercises began with a circle "skid pad" practice. We each drove around them in both directions until our instructors were dizzy and car-sick. Success was defined by not spinning (anything more than the inside rear tire) and keeping your instructor in one piece. AWD was a definite advantage here. I let Patty go first to warm up the tires and dry off the track. Then it was my turn, Sport mode on - check, PSM off - check, Rick Berry in the instructor seat – check. All I had to do was experiment with under steer and trailing throttle oversteer. Yes, that new Turbo does both unlike our former trusty black Cayman which seemed largely immune to the off throttle oversteer.

Following the skid pad we moved on to the slalom exercises. An out and back course was laid out with the cones approximately 55 feet apart. At the bottom end each driver had to negotiate the circle of cones then head up the hill through the right side cones. Smooth and shuffle steering were the order of the day here. As a result of the course layout coming back up the hill was a lot more difficult.

The final exercise involved massive trauma to three cones. The instructions were deceptively simple. To quote Rick Berry, "...from the line mash the gas till you get to the three cones marking the braking point then mash the brake pedal and stop without running over the three cones at the end of the course.." Simple right?! I'm guessing the cone trauma was expected as I noticed that none of the instructors seemed too keen on riding along during this trip.



The picture to the left shows a pensive looking Patty Ashworth waiting her turn and wondering if those big red brakes are going to be sufficient to stop that charging Turbo before the end cones in the braking test. They were and she felt even better after her husband managed to pummel those same cones into the next county. I'll not mention my efforts further except to say.

- 1. With sport mode turned on, Turbos rev exceedingly quick and get into the rev limiter moments after the boost hits.
 - 2. allow reaction time to get from the throttle to the brake,
- 3. and don't confuse the throttle and brake pedals as that error really slows the car during that first to second gear change.

Once everyone tired of terrorizing cones it was time to negotiate the autocross course laid out in the upper parking lot. We began with a couple of follow the leader laps and then everyone got three or four laps of the course individually to practice all that they had learned in the lower parking lot earlier in the day. No times were taken because the objectives were to implement all of the techniques studied in the first part of the day which were,

- 1. Knowing how hard you can turn the car before the front or rear wheels break traction,
- 2. Shuffle steering,
- 3. Being able to judge braking distance and force so you can maximize the length of each "straight",
- 4. Transitioning smoothly from throttle to brake so the car's balance is not upset,
- 5. Using the car's weight transfer to help maximize steering traction, and
- 6. Looking far ahead so you can see the path through the cones and make your decisions accordingly.

Many thanks to everyone who organized the event and especially to the instructors who bravely strapped into the passenger seats. Thanks also to the new faces who showed up I hope to see you all at many more SMTPCA events.





















April 2012

Is Porsche Still Working on a New Porsche 550 Spyder?

by Nelson Ireson • www.motorauthority.com

As one of the great on-again, off-again projects of recent years at Porsche, the sub-Boxster roadster, referred to internally as the 550--after the historic 550 Spyder--has at times straddled the cusp of both reality and cancellation. In a way, it continues to--but we recently sat down with Matthias Mueller, Porsche's CEO, and he said it's definitely still in the works.

In fact, says Mueller, Porsche held a focus group last month to see if the time is right for the brand to dip its toe into what it calls the A-segment roadster market. He didn't disclose the results of the clinic, but did follow up by saying it's not as much a question of if, but "when is the right time? Now? Three years from now? Six or seven?"

That's perhaps the best indication yet that Porsche does indeed have plans to build the 550 Spyder, though it also leaves the matter open-ended. The main concern isn't the car's performance or the brand's technical ability to produce it--instead, it's a matter of brand image. If there's "any risk" the brand could be harmed by a lower-priced, entry-level roadster, says Mueller, it will be postponed to a later date.

Bernhard Maier, member of Porsche's board of management for sales and marketing, followed up by saying, "We're in no hurry. We have the freshest and youngest model line we've had in our history."

Once Porsche decides to build the 550--assuming it does--it would take another three years to reach production, said Maier.

2013 Porsche Boxster interiorOne thing Porsche's quick to note, however, is that the latest redesign of the Boxster for the 2013 model year isn't an up-market move to make room for a smaller car below; it's just the natural trajectory of the Boxster itself.

Speaking of that trajectory--and the 550, in a way--Porsche is in fact working on four-cylinders. Mueller explicitly said the Boxster could get a four-cylinder version in the near future. Previous reports have suggested that might come in the form of a turbocharged flat four-cylinder good for 200-300 horsepower or more.





Packaged in a properly light chassis, the four-cylinder Boxster could split the difference between a six-cylinder model and the smaller, less-expensive 550--an interim solution, perhaps, taking a step toward the A-segment roadster without compromising the brand image with the risk of an all-new model.

Maier closed the topic by noting that there are still "a lot of opportunities" to add new Boxster variants, but cautioned that each "must be profitable, which means a certain amount of sales volume."

The same, certainly, could be said of the 550. Given the enthusiast interest in the topic, the future of fuel economy regulations, and the rising price of fuel itself, we think the future of the 550 looks bright. But it's still on the horizon. For now.



iRacing to Build Virtual Ruf RT12R

Bedford, MA (March 29, 2012) - iRacing.com, the world's foremost online motorsports simulation service, today announced plans to add the RufRT12R to its lineup of virtual race cars and high performance automobiles. Manufactured by Ruf Automobile GmbH, the RT12R is among the world's very fastest production automobiles.

"We're excited to offer the Ruf RT12R to iRacers around the world," said Steve Myers, Executive Vice President and Producer, iRacing.com Motorsport Simulation, LLC. "We're proud of the assortment of virtual race cars we have available, but iRacers have made it clear they also want high-performance, exotic automobiles in our service. The Ruf RT12R certainly fits the bill. It's a superb piece of automotive sculpture, with performance that is nothing short of breathtaking."

At the heart of the Ruf's performance is a 3.8 liter, twin-turbo, flat six engine producing 730 horsepower and nearly 700 lb/ft of torque. Coupled with a six speed transmission, the RT12R has a top speed of 230 mph.

"Ruf is pleased to partner with iRacing.com in building a digital version of the RT12R," said Estonia Ruf, Director of Marketing, Ruf Automobile GmbH. "For more than 70 years Ruf has been recognized for the craftsmanship and cutting-edge engineering that goes into all of our automobiles. Although it is a young company, comparatively speaking, iRacing clearly shares those core values of craftsmanship and engineering excellence."

iRacing vehicle dynamic engineers will begin the process of creating a digital prototype of the RT12R later this spring. When completed, the prototype will undergo a rigorous testing and development process in order to insure the virtual Ruf drives just like the real one. iRacing expects to make its Ruf RT12R available to iRacing members in the fall of 2012.

iRacing (www.iracing.com) was founded in September, 2004 by Dave Kaemmer and John Henry. Kaemmer was co-founder of Papyrus Design Group, developers of award-winning racing simulations including NASCAR Racing: 2003 Season and Grand Prix Legends. Henry is principle owner of the Boston Red Sox and Fenway Sports Group – owner of Liverpool F.C. and co-owner of Roush Fenway Racing – as well as an avid sim racer. The iRacing.com team combines more than 100 years of realworld racing experience with more than 50 years of successful racing simulation development.

Ruf Automobile GmbH, located in the foothills of Bavaria, was founded in 1939 as a family business and remains so to this day today. Ruf has been known since the early seventies as the high-performance address for sports cars with tradition.

Ruf Automobile GmbH Mindelheimer Straße 21 87772 Pfaffenhausen www.r.uf-automobile.de.in

www.r uf-automobile.de, info@ruf-automobile.de Tel: 08265-911911, Fax: 08265-911912







3 could not find the sports car of my dreams, so 3 built it myself.

- Ferdinand Porsehe

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

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 years' rallyemeister, 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.





RSVP AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE!

Please join us on June 9th at 6:00 p.m. for The Smokies vs Mississippi



PLEASE NOTE: There are only 24 <u>seats</u> 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!

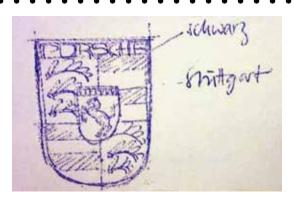
To RSVP, contact Cliff with number of guests at:

Cliff.Killion@gmail.com or 865.803.6568

\$30 per person

(Price includes game ticket, meal, cap, sales tax, service and one full size keg)

(One keg serves about 150 12-oz. servings)



Did you know...

It was in 1952 that Dr. Ferry Porsche, the son of Ferdinand Porsche, conceived the Porsche crest design on a napkin while dining at a New York restaurant.



The Porsche Event of the Year

This summer, the 57th Porsche Parade will be held in Salt Lake City. Utah Sunday from July 8th – Saturday July 14th, 2012. You need to be there!

The Little and Grand America Hotels in the heart of Salt Lake City will be our host hotels this year. Our primary block of rooms is in Little America, a AAA Four Diamond, family founded facility that has been a Salt Lake City landmark for over 40 years. Its sister hotel, the Grand America, is a Five Diamond facility. The hotels are across the street from each other are conveniently located within walking distance of shopping, restaurants, nightlife, cultural and sporting activities and the downtown trolley system.

We will of course have our traditional four competitive events, The Concours d'Elegance, TSD Rally, two days of Autocross fun, and the Technical and Historic Quiz. In between there will be many opportunities to join driving tours through the mountains, attend a local cooking school, try your hand at the Gimmick Rally, enter the Art Show, or shop at the Goodie Store—I could go on!

To see all the activities, and plan your week, go to http://parade2012.pca.org.

While the planning for the Parade is proceeding nicely, we had an unfortunate server crash which destroyed the server which hosts our online Parade registration software and database. We've spent the past two weeks rebuilding that server/software and transferring it to a new hosting company. As a result, we are moving our registration start date to March 27th to ensure the best possible experience for your online registration. Thank you in advance for your patience.

- Susan Brown

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Celebrating St. Patrick's Day with Porsche friends.

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

Apr. 10 - Sullivan's @ 7:00pm - Maryville

May 8 - Latitude 35 @ 7:00pm - Downtown

June 12 - Aubrey's @ 7:00pm - Middlebrook Pike

July 17 - Outback @ 7:00pm - Oak Ridge



DRIVE 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 meet at Ruby Tuesday in Lenoir City at 10:30 a.m. 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 the Crossville 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.

RSVP with number in party to Keith Kurz at kurzinutah@msn.com. We hope to see you there!





March 24th - Autocross School. Thanks to all who came out for this fun, educational day. Hope to see you at an upcoming autocross to show off your new-found skills!

April 29 - part of Spring Thing 2012 festivities. Autocross will be held on Sunday.

May 19 - Saturday autocross at PELLISSIPPI STATE in Knoxville.

November 11 - final autocross as part of Fall Fest 2012. Autocross will be held on Sunday.

For the most up to date info on autocrosses and other Smoky Mountain Region events, please visit the web site at http://www.smtpca.org



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April 2012

DER MARKET

Oil Temperature Gauge

This came out of my 1978 930. Includes sending unit but I am not expert enough to know if it is the right one. \$25

Jim Marsh 865-356-9107



1989 Porsche Carrera Cabriolet

71,500 miles. New top. Seats professionally redyed. Last of the torsion bar cars. G50 5-speed. \$29,500

Call Nick Imperato for more details 865-776-8097



1983 Porsche 944

New red paint job with body work complete. Interior also finished with new black carpet and new dash pad. Car has A/C but does not work. The clutch is slipping. The car runs but needs tuning to run better. Asking \$2000. Also have another 944 parts car. Call James (owner) 423-667-1438 or John (dad) at 423-365-5406 or Patty at 423-884-2678

Harness Bars

Weldmaster. One for 911 SCs and 1980s Carrera. One for 944s. Both in excellent condition. \$50 each. Tommy Wilson 423-333-5899



PARTICIPATE

Help make **Smoke Signals** the best it can be. Submit your:

Articles Photos For Sale items

to Steven Schleif at smschleif@gmail.com

Porsche Cayman Gen 1 Third Radiator Kit.

This is the Suncoast Porsche kit selling on their site for \$359.

Never installed. (I sold the car before I finished modifying it). The kit is complete, all parts are present and unused. I only opened the box to check the parts list and insure everything was included when I received it.

Fitment: According to Suncoast this kit is sold for 987 Cavman or Cayman S 2006 – 2008 MY

Note: this radiator is already installed in Tiptronic equipped cars so this kit is for manual transmission cars only. Cost \$300 plus shipping.

I'll ship via carrier and speed of your choice.

Contact: Terry at TJA1@comcast.net (865)483-0419

Cayman Radiator Front vent grills in black

These are the Porsche Mesh.com Front mesh grilles in Black. http://www.porschemesh.com/cayman.html

Front Sides and Front Center (center is for Tiptronic) grilles. Never mounted (I sold the car before I finished modifying it). These are for a Generation 1 Cayman (2006 – 2008 MY). Front L&R and Center Grill mesh - \$150 plus shipping Front L&R grills only (pair) - \$70 plus shipping Center grill only - \$65 plus shipping

I'll ship via carrier and shipping speed of your choice. **Contact:** Terry at TJA1@comcast.net (865)483-0419

Der Market is a free service to PCA members. Ads will run in both the printed newsletter and on the website at smtpca.org Send your ads to Steven Schleif at smschleif@gmail.com

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES

PRINT ADS - annual fee

\$250 Full Page ~8x6.5

\$200 Half Page ~4x6.5 or ~8x3.25

Inside front cover: Add \$100 to above rates Inside back cover: Add \$100 to above rates Back cover (half page): Add \$100 to half-page rate

All print ads include a FREE text link on the web site Add \$50 for Banner Link on web site

WEB SITE ADS - annual fee

\$25 Link on web site "Links" page \$75 Banner Link on web site

(includes text link on "Links" page)

PORSCHE... THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE

2012 CALENDAR of EVENTS

	Apr 10	Event Board Meeting (Members Welcome) Monthly Social/Dinner Spring Thing	Location Eurotech Knoxville Sullivan's - Maryville Townsend, TN	Time 6:30pm 7:00pm TBA
	May 8	Tech Event Monthly Social/Dinner Autocross	Harpers Porsche Latitude 35 - Downtown Pellissippi State	8:30am 7:00pm TBA
	June 12	Smokies Baseball Game Monthly Social/Dinner New Member Social & Drive Out	Smokies Stadium Aubrey's - Middlebook Pk TBA	6:00pm 7:00pm TBA
	July 17	Porsche Parade Monthly Social/Dinner Board Meeting (Members Welcome)	Salt Lake City, UT Outback - Oak Ridge Eurotech Knoxville	7:00pm 6:30pm
Aug	Aug 18	Nick's Italian Dinner Detailing Your Car Day Drive Out Rennfest	Nick Imperato's House Mike Parker's House TBA Peachstate/GA	TBA TBA TBA
	Sept 15	Monthly Social/Dinner Tech Event Day Drive out	Calhoun's - Turkey Creek TBA TBA	7:00pm TBA 9:00am
	Oct 17	Monthly Social/Dinner Board Meeting (Members Welcome) 2013 Planning Meeting	Cafe 4 - Downtown Eurotech Knoxville TBA	7:00pm 6:30pm 9am-noon
	Nov 10-11	Tech Event Fall Fest 2012 Monthly Social/Dinner	TBA TBA Angelo's - Lenoir City	TBA 7:00pm
	Dec 8	Holiday Party	Jubilee Banquet	7:00pm

Weddings by Suzan

Wedding Director, Event Planning
Suzan Bowman

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