



Porsche Club of America

SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION

IT'S NOT JUST THE CARS — IT'S THE PEOPLE

Smoke Signals - The Newsletter of the Smoky Mountain Region – April 2021

Keep up to date with all the latest - <http://smtPCA.org/>

SPRING THING 2021, April 30 – May 2

Is fast approaching; Rich and Jamie have a great, safe time planned for us, hosted at the [Carnegie Hotel](#). Some new perks include covered parking for all, bigger and more diverse facilities, and the autocross will be held at [Bristol Motor Speedway](#). We have 55+ cars currently register (a record!). If you have yet to, [sign up soon](#) and get ready for fun!



Registration ends April 16, 2021 11:59 PM EDT

PORSCHE PARADE 2021, July 11 – 18

Parade registration Phase II went “swimmingly” this last April 7th. In spite of the glitches, our registrants successfully registered for their preferred events, dinners, drives, tours, and such. Smoky Mountain Region has at least a dozen cars heading to the French Lick Resort (Indiana), and there are some friends from Wilderness Trail joining us.

The Autocross looks to be good one this year at the French Lick Municipal Airport. Danny is plotting a good layout this year and has some help from our in-house experts. Get the [full scoop at the website](#). As noted before, we are discussing a “Fun Drive” to Parade, most likely Saturday. If you are interested, [drop us a note](#).

FROM THE REGION PRESIDENT

Many members toiled over the course of the winter with improvements to their Porsche or simply just reliving the memories of past drives and events in the anticipation of warmer weather. Spring is now here! The days are longer and the temperature is on the rise, with that comes the new driving season.

In addition, the availability and application of vaccines is on the rise and active COVID cases are hopefully on the decline. We've been waiting a long time for this to occur and it's safe to say that everyone is glad to start putting this pandemic behind us. *Please don't let your guard down.* Even after being vaccinated, for the time being, please continue to wear your face coverings, wash your hands often, and practice social distancing. Before long, we will be able to dispense with those as well.

As promised, we have resumed Region functions that we can conduct safely. As of this writing, our March day tour was a huge success. Same goes for our first autocross event. We had 28 cars participate in that event. As of the time of this writing, our April day tour has been announced and RSVPs are coming in at a steady pace. With the increasing decline of the pandemic, it won't be long before we will be able to begin folding more activities into the mix.

To that end, I want to hear from you regarding what you'd like to do. Whether that may be a certain drive that you would like to take, a good location for a monthly social, a destination for a day tour such as a park or winery, an overnight event, a charity function, Concours, etc. Please let me know what you are most interested in. Please remember that this is always your Region and the Board is here to serve you!

Safe Travels – Bob

2021 CALENDAR - <http://smtPCA.org/calendar/>

The [Region Calendar](#) is filling up, Autocross dates are set, Drive Outs are lining up, Spring Thing and Fall Fest and a Summer Do at The Ranch is in the works! If you have any activity ideas, want to lead a Day Drive or Drive Out, host an event, etc., please [send your thoughts in](#).

AUTOCROSS 2021

Spring Autocrosses are done, and next one is at Spring Thing, then onto the Fall events.

- Saturday, September 18
- Saturday, October 2
- Sunday, October 31 (Fall Fest weekend)

DID YOU KNOW?



Our website has a lot of good stuff. There are sections about the many types of events we host and participate in. There is an “**Autocross Defined**” section that covers the basics, technique, tips, rules, car classification, etc. So, checkout our [Autocross Defined page](#).

2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

If you have any questions, ideas, or want to help, please feel free to contact The Executive Board. They can be [reached on the website](#).



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Remember, it is the people that make this work!

MARCH AUTOCROSS (see the pix!)

March 20, 2021 was our first autocross of the season, and it was a beautiful day at Greeneville Airport. We teamed up with Wilderness Trail Region, and had 28 drivers, a lot of spectators, and gorgeous weather. Rick and friends designed high speed outer loop with a slow, snaky centerpiece: mid-40s second laps were the time to beat.



Figure 1 - Bob Baugh hits a midspeed left into the slalom

A C8 (beautiful car!) took the day this time, with Brian and Matt not far behind. Thanks to all for coming out and helping, and as always thanks to Eurotech for putting it on.

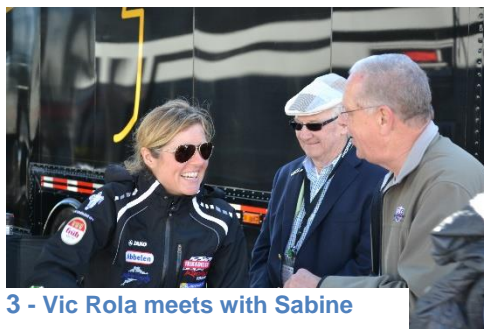


2 – Rick Berry gives some pointers

Rank	Name	Car	Best Time	Time Difference
1	Paul McFall	C8	44.701	+0
2	Brian Hatten	Cayman S	45.636	+0.935
3	Matt Fischer	Cayman S	45.78	+1.079
4	Van Thurston	GT3	46.053	+1.352
5	Jordan Right	GT3	46.399	+1.698
6	Travis McGowan	Cayman GTS	46.965	+2.264
7	Leo Nascimento	718 Cayman GTS	46.967	+2.266
8	Rich McGowan	Cayman GTS	47.032	+2.331
9	Carl Justice	911	47.09	+2.389
10	Todd Sutton	Boxster S	47.194	+2.493
11	Matthew Leach	997 Turbo	47.495	+2.794
12	Lucas Coleman	325is	47.502	+2.801
13	Jeff Vantrease	GT3	47.719	+3.018
14	John McDermott	997 911	48.046	+3.345
15	Brian Alexander	M4	48.231	+3.53
16	Terrance Pearson	Boxster S	48.252	+3.551
17	Austin G'Fellers	328i	48.918	+4.217
18	JD Daniels	Cayman R	49.112	+4.411
19	Rick Brooksbank	GT4	49.6	+4.899
20	Janis Berry	Boxster	49.935	+5.234
21	Bo Whaley	924	50.423	+5.722
22	Dave Yoder	Boxster S	50.436	+5.735
23	Tommy Wilson	Boxster	50.664	+5.963
24	Bob Baugh	996	50.701	+6
25	Bruce Wachter	996	51.216	+6.515
26	Jerry Arwood	914	51.966	+7.265
27	Derek Brewer	Boxster	52.01	+7.309
28	Harry Herrmann	718 Boxster GTS	53.067	+8.366

QUEEN OF THE NÜRBURGRING, DIES AT 51

German racing driver Sabine Schmitz, affectionately known as the “Queen of the Nürburgring,” died March 16 after a four-year battle with cancer. She was 51.



3 - Vic Rola meets with Sabine

Back in 1996, she became the first and only woman to win the Nürburgring 24 Hours and later added a second victory there. Two years later, she also became the first woman

to win the VLN Endurance Championship title. She won nearly 50 career races on the famous German circuit.

Via con Dios, Fraulein...

Full details can be seen at [Hagerty's news site](#).

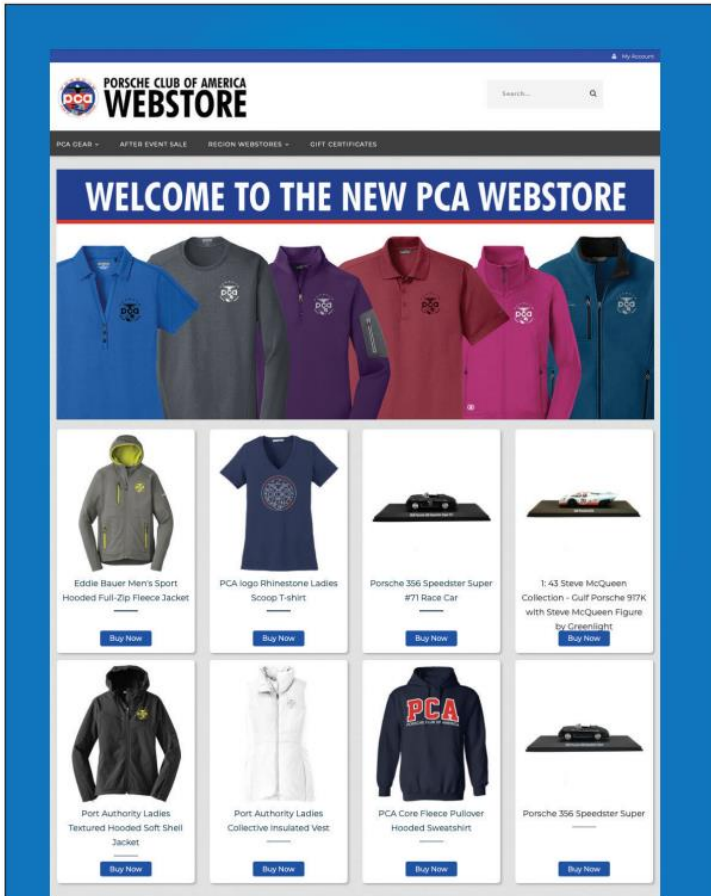


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Exclusive PCA apparel and accessories

Place your PCA pride on display with exclusive apparel, lifestyle products, and vehicle accessories. The PCA online store features a wide variety of shirts, jackets, hats, car models, PCA Region items, and much more for men, women, and children.

SHOP ONLINE: www.pcawebstore.org



PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA



And remember: YOU CAN GET PCA REGION GEAR!

You can order Smoky Mountain Region swag, and we get a cut from any SMT PCA gear sold. Official PCA and Porsche merch with the Smoky Mountain Region logo is available at [Smoky Mountain Region PCA Store](#).



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PARTING SHOT – BARN FIND? Pffft: STORAGE CONTAINERS ARE WHERE IT'S AT!

For all you 550 Spyder fans, the Find of the Century has occurred. A 1955 Porsche 550 Spyder was found in a shipping container where it had been stored for 35 Years.



A 1955 street-spec example was recently unearthed in California after sitting no fewer than 35 years in a container. Although it was never lost, the car was put into storage after its owner got into motorcycles in the 1980s.

As the owner passed away recently, Old Crow Speed Shop owner Bobby Green was invited to see the motorcycle collection, stored at the top of a remote hill in Orange County.

As he opened the container, the 550 Spyder saw the light of the day for the first time in more than three decades. Despite sitting for all those years, the red speedster looks impressively clean, with no signs of rust.

Built in 1955, this 550 Spyder is among the last examples that left the assembly line in Stuttgart. It's powered by a mid-mounted, 1.5-liter flat-four engine originally rated at 108 horsepower and 89 pound-feet (121 Nm) of torque. Based on its model year, it's fitted with a four-speed manual, as Porsche didn't add the five-speed unit until 1956.

On top of being a sexy, streetable speedster, the 550 was also a successful race car. It debuted with a win at the Nürburgring, and it also scored class wins in the 24 Hours of Le Mans and the Carrera Panamericana.



Due to its scarcity and rich racing pedigree, the 550 Spyder is a prized collectible. Restored and well-maintained examples typically change owners for \$3.5 to \$5 million, but some examples can fetch even more than that.

Get all the details at [autoevolution's article](#).



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