



# 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 – June 2021

### RENNSPORT DRAGON RALLY, SPRING 2021

- John McDermott, Special Correspondent

Have you ever seen over 200 Porsches in one place? Maybe you have at Amelia Island or a Porsche Parade, however the weekend of June 4 through the 6th, was the scene of a gathering in the mountains of North Carolina. There were P-cars of all types: 356, several other air cooled, GT3 RS, GT2 and the full spectrum of 911 and Boxster/Caymans. Several members of our region participated in the Rennsport Dragon Rally, A Porsche only event, where you get to drive the wonderful roads of North Carolina and Tennessee. There were folks representing 24 states (someone from Nevada was there!)



The roads travelled had names such as Moonshiner 28 (wonder how this road got its name?), Hellbender, Foothills Parkway Missing Link, and the Cherohala Skyway. Of course, no trip would be complete without driving the famous Tail of

the Dragon (maybe even more than once for some of us!). We drove over 700 miles in the three days! Along the way there were stops at Ohlin suspension specialist and Appalachian Driving Experience (ever want to drive a GT3 on the roads, check them out).

The event was well organized with drive groups for all types of drivers. It was a great opportunity to meet new people and reconnect with folks you already knew.

Our own Rick and Janis Berry and members of the EuroTech team were not just a major sponsor of the event, but also technical support. There were many who needed help, and the EuroTech team was there to help if a mechanical issue came up.



If you are interested in joining fellow Porsche fans (more like fanatics), the next Rennsport events are this October 22-24 (also the same dates in 2022) and June 10-12, 2022.

You can find more information the [Rennsport Dragon Rally website](#).

### PORSCHE PARADE 2021 – July 11-18!

Parade is NEXT MONTH! Get the [full scoop at the website](#). As noted before, we are discussing a “Fun Drive” to Parade, most likely Saturday, so if you are interested, [drop us a note](#).

One anticipated event tour is the [Dallara/IMS Museum Tour](#). Participants will travel to Speedway, Indiana, home of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and tour the Dallara Indycar Factory. All Indycars are built there, and we'll see 23,000 sq. ft. of Indy History!

### FROM THE REGION PRESIDENT

Has everyone [looked at our calendar lately](#)? Wow! At the beginning of the year, the calendar was basically empty, with the exception of some national events like Parade and Treffen. That's certainly not the case now. As promised, we have resumed events that can safely be done. We are now conducting monthly driving tours and holding autocross events. Our next driving tour will be held on June 26th and the route will take us northwest of Knoxville to Pall Mall, Tennessee, where we will have a picnic at Sgt. Alvin C. York State Historic Park. Please [check out our web site](#) for more information and how to register, or send me an email and I will add you to the roster.

We have a [very special event scheduled](#) for Saturday, July 24th at Tim and Tami Purcell's ranch, Red Heaven Ranch, in Lenoir City. The event is designed to be both a new member social and a “welcome back” to our existing members. The significance of this event is important as it signals the resumption of all club activities. Yes, that means that our famous and well attended monthly dining socials will resume in August! More details to follow on those.

With the resumption of activities, we are striving to provide a balanced mix of activities so that members can pick and choose, or simply do all of the events! Please be sure to check your email and the club's website frequently for announcement of new events. As always, we are open to suggestions for all types of activities. If you've got an idea for an activity, just email it to me and we will do our very best to fold it into the mix of activities. Also, if anyone would like to assist with the planning of any type of event, please let me know.

*[Safe Travels – Bob](#)*



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### MAY DRIVE OUT – CUMBERLAND GAP

May 15, 2021 – Blaine's Food City was our Start/Stop point, where 17 cars met, did The Paperwork, Drivers' Meeting, and got on our way. Beautiful weather was requested and delivered, and Teresa laid out an excellent course with gorgeous views, long pastoral scenes, and some twisties to keep it interesting.

We made it to Cumberland Gap National Park, and after a pitstop headed up the mountain to the Pinnacle Overlook. Expansive views were the order of the day, crossing three states. After the "Oooh! Ahhh!" we hit the pic-a-nic pavilion for a nice pic-a-nic of dining and socializing. After that we hit some fun roads home back to the Food City and then off to Carolina Ale House for some Post-Trip commentary and ruminating.

Great drive, and good weather made this one another HIT! Many thanks to Teresa for planning this out!

Check out [pictures from the day](#).

Next one is on the [books for June 26th](#), to Sgt. Alvin C. York State Historic Park for another pic-a-nic.

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

The [Region Calendar](#) is filling up, Autocross dates are set, Drive Outs are lining up, 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](#).

### DID YOU KNOW?



Our website has a lot of good stuff. There are lots of news and notes and event blurbs out there.

You seem to like Newsletters, since you're reading one. Our website has a Newsletter archive dating back to 2009. Trying to remember some previous event detail? Curious to what we were

doing many years ago? Checkout our ["Smoke Signals"](#) page, see some history, have a laugh.

### 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](#).

*Remember, it is the people that make this work!*

### RENNFEST 2021 – SEPTEMBER 2-5, 2021

Rennfest is Zone 3's annual end-of-summer celebration, and Labor Day weekend is the date... [Brasstown Valley Resort](#) is the place. Come join us for this year's party when we return to the North Georgia Mountains in Young Harris, GA. There will be golfing, concouring, rallying, autocrossing, banqueting, socializing, and telling of stories and awards. A limited block of rooms is being held at Brasstown Valley Resort and Spa for Thursday - Sunday. [Sign up online soon](#), rooms and spots are limited.

### DRIVE OUT COMMUNICATIONS

Communication on Drive Outs is key, as anything can (and has!) come up. In spite of the excellent cell phone coverage we are used to, many of the roads we enjoy are close to The Middle of Nowhere... with Nowhere coverage. The club has a set of radios, but they are designed for and work best at autocrosses (i.e., short range). Many members have purchased their own more powerful Dual Band walkie-talkies, and the [BAOFENG UV-5R Two-Way Radio](#) has been our "go to" unit. It's powerful, easy to use, compact, and with a whip antenna can get up to 5km in range. Our preferred frequency is 462.612 MHz.

### PCA NATIONAL UPDATES

- [Porsche Parade, July 2021](#) – French Lick, Indiana
- Amelia Island Concours - [March 3-6, 2022](#)
- Porsche Parade 2022 – Poconos, New York
- Porsche Parade 2023 – Palm Springs, California

Keep up with all the [National PCA events](#).

### HARLEQUIN BOXSTER

No idea where this one came from, but someone spent a lot of effort on this wrap!





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## PCA hosts over 3,500 events, activities, and programs every year

As a member of PCA, you're invited to show off your prized possession to people who can appreciate it while attending a wide array of PCA-sponsored events. PCA activities include autocross, HPDE, Club Racing, rallies, concours, sim racing, car shows, driving tours, tech sessions, and much more. Whether you like a bit of friendly competition or prefer to socialize, there is something for you.

**MORE INFORMATION:** [www.pca.org/activities](http://www.pca.org/activities)

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



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### PARTING SHOT - 2021 Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance

- Tommy Wilson, Special Correspondent



Just the chance to see cars that might sell for as much as \$5 million and others you might not see anywhere else prompted several from Smoky Mountain Region to make their way to Amelia Island's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Concours d' Elegance held May 20-23, 2021.

Clyde Peery made Tommy Wilson's week by allowing him to fill the vacancy of Debbie Cooper who was dealing with a temporary health issue. Staying at the same motel on the beach was Rick and Janis Berry, Vaughn Smith and Louise Harrison, Tom McConnell (and Phil, a buddy from work), Vic Rola and Jackie Israel, Alan and Rose Cox were on the Island as well. Vic entered his Macan GTS in the WERKS Reunion as did Rick Berry his GT4.



We all had a great time going from car to car and discussing what restaurant we would be meeting at for dinner. It was a great time to get to know each other even better.



There were celebrities around each corner. The event was honoring famed female racer, Lyn St. James. Wayne Carini, of Chasing Classic Cars fame, was on hand as a judge for the concours, as was Peach State Region's, and SMR/PCA friend Danny Saxton. Danny's wife Kathy was also on hand with her usual bright smile and energy.



Carini had a booth selling everything from shirts to books. His booth was just down the way from Hurley Haywood also selling a variety of items and signing books.



The cars were fantastic. They ranged from those built and raced in the early 1900's to a 1957 Ford race car, a \$1 million McLaren and everything in between. There was even the Formula E Porsche on display, along with Porsche's electric bicycle.

Until next year... See you [March 3-6, 2022!](https://www.pca.com/2022/03/march-3-6-2022/)





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**AS ALWAYS...** Remember our Sponsors! They make Spring Thing and other events possible.

*Remember to utilize their services and vote with your wallet.*



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