



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 – DECEMBER 2022

ANOTHER YEAR COMES TO AN END...

2022 is winding down, 2023 is queuing up, and so it is time to look back and reflect. And remember **Spring Thing 2023** is coming in March, see details in *Parting Shot* on Page 4.

DRIVING TOURS

We took eight or so Driving Tours this year, from Car Care Clinics to Porsches & Horses to Mountain Top Overnights.

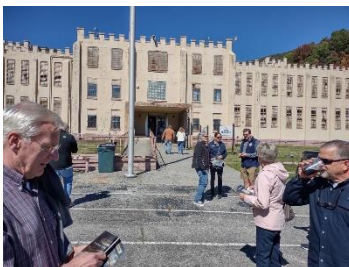
- [Porsches & Horses Driving Tour](#)
- [Driving Tour & Potluck, Murphy NC](#)
- [Driving Tour, Devil's Triangle/Brushy Mountain Prison](#)
- [Driving Tour to Banner Elk](#)
- [SUV Driving Tour](#)
- [Trip to Children's Museum of Oak Ridge](#)
- [April Bush Beans Driving Tour](#)
- [February Driving Tour, Cumberland Mountain](#)
- [Griots Garage Car Care Clinic](#)

There were some firsts this year. The SUV Driving Tour took on some wild mountain gravel and dirt roads to test out our... Well, Porsche SUVs! And others...



All made it fine to the destination, Lilly Pad Hopyard Brewery in Lancing.

We also had our first (ever? in a while?) Ladies Only Driving Tour. About a dozen hearty lassess weathered some inclement weather on some back roads to Asheville, NC, for lunch and bandying about. This was well received and will become an annual thing.



CARS & COFFEE

Last year we had a couple "informal" regional C&C events, so this year we ramped it up a bit. On top of hitting the quarterly Harper's C&Cs at the mall, we had almost monthly club events.

- March – Cars & Coffee (Porsches & Pancakes)
- April – Cars & Coffee, Shoney's Maryville
- April – Harper Auto Square's Cars & Coffee

- July – Cars & Coffee, Ugly Mug, Lenoir City
- July – Harper Auto Square's Cars & Coffee
- August – [Cars & Coffee, Beaver's Dough-Joe](#), Karns
- September – Cars & Coffee, Lisa's Country Kitchen
- October – Cars & Coffee, Ugly Mug, Lenoir City
- October – Harper Auto Square's Cars & Coffee



Turnout ranged from a couple Porsches (some did not get the weather memo) to over 50 (Beaver's Dough Joe was overwhelmed!), and a good time was had by all. We will definitely keep this up, as it is well received.

MULTI-DAY EVENTS

We had three "Over Nighters", ranging from our annual Spring Thing (Remember 2023 Spring Thing, March 24-26) to a couple of "drive into the hills".

- [Driving Tour & Potluck, Murphy NC](#)
- [Driving Tour to Banner Elk, August 2022](#)
- [Spring Thing 2022, Johnson City](#)

These events entailed drives, socializing, and dining. Our Murphy event involved a truly "mountain top" experience, having a potluck on top of Stiles Mountain at two of our members' cabins. Twisty NC mountain roads led to and from that event.



Banner Elk was a great weekend in the ski resort area of Western NC. About 40 cars descended on the Best Western for catered meals, happy hours, and many drives. This year we incorporated a hike for those so inclined.



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And of course, Spring Thing, THE SMT signature event, was another rousing success this year. Sixty+ cars descended on Johnson City's Carnegie Hotel for our usual weekend of fun, camaraderie, driving, and showing. We had a

Concours, an autocross at Bristol Motor Speedway, and choice of Driving Tour or Gimmick Rally.



REMEMBER! Spring Thing 2023 is only THREE MONTHS away, March 24-26, 2023. See the full page spread in *Parting Shot* on Page 4 below.

OTHER THINGS WE DID



This year saw a good contingent of SMT folks head to Amelia Island for the [Big Concours and Porsche Werks](#). We dined on (good) seafood, saw tons of cars, rode a pig, competed, ate some more, and met a lot of old friends

and made new ones.

This year's [Porsche Parade](#) was in the Poconos of Pennsylvania, and again we had a good showing. We stayed at the Kalahari (even broke one of the slides in the waterpark) and toured great roads thereabout. Again, we represented well, bringing home a few trophies. The Parade itself was quite good, including a lap on the Pocono Motor Speedway Tri-Oval.



We rounded out the year with our [Christmas Party at The Club at Gettysvue](#), meeting and chatting and dining well again. It was good to see all, and to catch up. This was the last social of 2022 (oh yeah, we had monthly socials all year long as well), and there are many more for 2023.

So, onto 2023, there are many things in the works.

- Porsche Parade 2023, Palm Springs, CA
 - Spring Thing 2023, BACK at The General Morgan
 - Driving Tours and Region Cars & Coffees
 - And so many other things... Please bring your ideas!
- Please help out where you can. Planning socials, running Driving Tours, or just working a corner at an Autocross.
Truly, It's not just the cars, it's the people...

NEW MEMBER ROUNDUP – WELCOME!

Oct/Nov/Dec 2022 - Say "Hi!" to our new members!

Wendell L	2022 718 Cayman GTS 4.0
Mark L	1988 911 Carrera Targa
Allen A	2007 911 GT3 RS
Eric K	2014 Boxster S
Chris H	1987 944 Turbo
Rick D	2010 911 Carrera
Robert Q	2013 Cayenne
Matthew H	PCA Test Drive program
Lucinda W	2008 Boxster S
Jeffrey K	1977 911S Targa
Steven C	2018 911 GT3
Jeff B	2011 911 Carrera S Cab
John P	2008 911 Carrera
Daniel P	2007 911 Carrera

SPEAKING OF NEW MEMBERS...

Need a Name Tag? Check [the website](#) and order away!



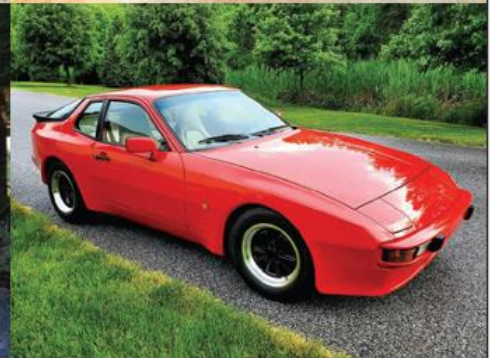


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PARTING SHOT – SPRING THING 2023 – March 24-26, 2023, Greeneville, TN

The Quick Details!

- **WHAT:** A Porsche weekend with a Concours, Driving Tour or Gimmick Rally, and Autocross
- **WHERE:** [The General Morgan Inn](#), Greeneville TN (about 1.5 hours NE of Knoxville)
- **WHO:** Smoky Mountain Region and other Southeastern regions of the PCA
- **HOW:** Register ONLINE at <https://www.motorsportreg.com>
- **HOTEL:** Call the Hotel, 1-423-787-1000, Front Desk. 50 rooms are blocked off, at \$145/night, under "Porsche Club"
- **DEADLINE** for event registration is March 17, 2023; **DEADLINE** for hotel reservations is February 24, 2023
- **HOW MUCH?** \$220 for two-persons or \$140 for a single (+hotel). Includes the Friday reception, Saturday Concours, Saturday lunch, the Driving tour or Gimmick Rally, Saturday evening Banquet, and the Sunday Autocross.

Spring Thing, Smoky Mountain Region's signature annual event, is a get together on a weekend with 3 car events: Concours, Driving Tour or Gimmick Rally, and Autocross. The weekend starts with your drive to Greeneville, Check-In, and the Friday reception in the hotel lobby to reconnect with friends and meet new ones. Friday dinner is on your own.



Saturday morning the **Concours D'Elegance** will kick off at 9:00 am right across from the hotel. There are two types of judging groups – Street and Touring. Street group judges the interior and exterior only (no engine, storage trunk, or undercarriage). Touring group judges the interior, exterior, storage compartments and engine (if viewable). Prizes are awarded at the banquet on Saturday evening. Spectators are welcome to saunter through the display as well.

Saturday afternoon you can choose to participate in the **Driving Tour** or **Gimmick Rally**. A driving tour is led by a local member and you basically follow the leader on some really nice roads. The Gimmick Rally will provide some driving fun as you drive a Rally Route and participate in the Gimmick part where you will learn about local folklore. Prizes for the Gimmick Rally are awarded at the banquet.



Our Banquet buffet will be held in the hotel ballroom Saturday evening. Event Trophies and Door Prizes will be awarded at the Banquet in addition to a silent auction and live auction. Sunday morning the **Autocross** will be held at the Greeneville Airport, a few miles away from the hotel. We try to finish by early afternoon and get everyone on the way home. Only Spring Thing attendees are allowed to drive in the autocross. Awards are given out at the end of the event. Spectators are welcome to come and watch (with requisite paperwork). Or you can sleep in and go catch a nice breakfast nearby.

You do NOT have to participate in all of the events or any of them, but we think you will want to experience them. Even if it is your first time or 40th time, we think you will enjoy being around like-minded Porsche people for the weekend. This weekend usually sees folks from NC, SC, AL, GA, OH, FL and beyond attend. Again, [register ASAP](#), and prices are: \$220 for two-persons or \$140 for a single participant, plus hotel.

We hope to see you there! *Bob Southerland* ([email](#)) and *Mike Parker* ([email](#)), Co-Chairs
Check out Spring Things Past! [Spring Thing 2022](#) [Spring Thing 2021](#) [Spring Thing 2019](#) [Spring Thing 2018](#)





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



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