



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 – MARCH 2023

FROM THE REGION PRESIDENT

As I sat down to write this month's message, I realized that today is the first day of Spring! That, along with the transition back to Daylight Savings Time, clearly signals the ending of the "Dark Days of Winter". Jimmy Cliff's "I Can See Clearly Now" come to mind and I visualize my favorite driving seasons, Spring, Summer and Fall before me. Let's drop the top and hit some twisties! I wonder how many of you will be humming that diddy throughout the day now.



I cannot think of a better way to kick off the driving season than by celebrating with like-minded P-Car lovers at Smoky Mountain Region's [Spring Thing](#). The planning committee is hard at work putting the finishing touches on what holds out to be a stellar weekend. If you've never participated in Spring Thing, this would be a great year to start! For more information, or to register, please contact Suzan Bowman at suzanbowman@gmail.com.

2024 will mark the 50th anniversary of our club's founding. Can you believe it? This milestone is something that deserves to be celebrated. Please let me know if you have ideas for events or want to help with the planning. We are hoping for great participation from members and are still looking for someone to lead the planning effort.

I'd like to take a moment and share with everyone a couple of exciting events on the horizon. On April 29th, Steve Franklin will be leading a group from the Smoky Mountain Region on a day trip to [Luft Wasser in Brevard, NC](#). Luft Wasser is put on by the Appalachian Region and 150-200 Porsches will be on display in downtown Brevard. In addition, Rich McGowan is putting together an overnight driving tour to Nashville to visit the [Lane Motor Museum](#). This event is scheduled for June 24-25. Be sure to mark your calendars for both of these exciting events. Following Spring Thing, more information on each of these events and how to register will be emailed to everyone.

As always, if you have ideas for drives, events, or places to have socials, please give me a shout. Also, if you are interested in becoming more involved with the Smoky Mountain Region, I would love to hear from you. We welcome member involvement, so do let me know how you would like to be part of what makes the club great.

Safe travels,
Bob

WHAT IS IN STORE FOR 2023?

There are many things in the works.

- [Spring Thing 2023](#), BACK at The General Morgan
- [Porsche Parade 2023](#), Palm Springs, CA. Phase I Registration starts April 5, 2023, at Noon, SHARP!
- Driving Tours and Cars & Coffees & Socials, oh my!
- And so many other things... [Please bring your ideas!](#)

Please help 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...

SPRING THING 2023 – March 24-26, 2023

IT'S ALMOST HERE!!! Our own Porsche weekend with a Concours, Driving Tour or Gimmick Rally, and Autocross, at [The General Morgan Inn](#), Greeneville TN. We have a bumper crop this year, and it will be a blast. Check out Spring Things Past! [Spring Thing 2022](#) [Spring Thing 2021](#) [Spring Thing 2019](#) [Spring Thing 2018](#)

THINGS ON THE HORIZON

Our new Rip Roaring Social Committee (Thanks Kathy!) has put it in high gear, and planned most of the rest of the year.

- 4/18 Olive Garden (Turkey Creek)
- 5/16 Blue Tic Tavern (Maryville)
- 6/20 Tellico Village Tugaloo Beach
- 7/20 Harper Porsche
- 8/15 TBD
- 9/22 Finn's Irish Pub
- 10/12 Eurotech
- 11/21 Calhouns Pellissippi
- 12/? Christmas party

Outings abound as well!

- 4/23 – Harper Auto Square's [Cars & Coffee](#)
- 4/22 – SMT Cars & Coffee, Lisa's Country Kitchen
- 4/29 – [Driving Tour to Luft Wasser](#)
- May Driving Tour: You got an idea??

More details forthcoming, so [keep an eye on the calendar](#).

RUNNING FAST

The 2023 Driver's Education and SCCA Autocross calendars are coming together, so if one is so inclined to scuff those tires a little, here are some opportunities.

Alabama Region PCA Driver's Education

- 04/01/23 – Barber Motorsports Park - [Register](#)
- 06/17/23 – Barber Motorsports Park - [Register](#)



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- 09/23/23 – Barber Motorsports Park - [Register](#)
- 12/09/23 – Barber Motorsports Park - [Register](#)

Peachstate Region PCA Driver's Education

- 04/14/23 – Road Atlanta, GA- [Register](#)
- 06/03/23 – Road Atlanta, GA- [Register](#)
- 09/29/23 – Road Atlanta, GA- [Register](#)

East Tennessee Region SCCA Events

- April-23 - Event 2 - Kodak
- May 13-14 - Evo School - Event 3 - Bristol
- June 3-4 - Mopar event - Event 4 - Bristol
- June 24-25 - TnT Event 5 - Bristol
- July 29-30 - ETR school Event 6 - Bristol
- August-23 - Event 7 - Kodak
- Sept 23-24 - Starting Line School - Event 8 - Bristol
- Oct 21-22 - TBD - Event 9 - Bristol

[Their website](#) will have more details shortly.

NEW MEMBER ROUNDUP – WELCOME!

February 2022 - Say "Hi!" to our new members!

Kevin K.	2020 911 Carrera S
Jonathon C.	2022 911 GT3
Cameron C.	2002 911 Carrera 4 Cabriolet
Eris & Bridget M.	1988 911 Carrera
Scott S.	2011 911 Carrera S Cabriolet
Jack G.	2016 911 Carrera GTS Cabriolet



"This makes 28 times you claim you have to go back to the store because you forgot an item. If you want to drive the Porsche, then just say so."

SPEAKING OF NEW MEMBERS...

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



JUNIOR DRIVERS

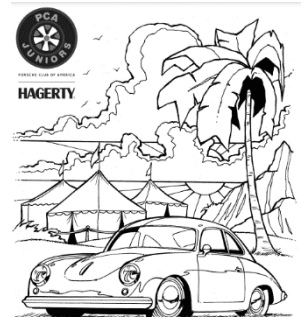


The [PCA Juniors program](#) is for kids to enjoy PCA events, learn about Porsches, and continue the passion that runs throughout the Porsche Club of America. These are our future drivers and club members.

As they also say:

"It's not just the cars, it's the Young People!"

There are Social Media accounts for PCA Juniors to check out as well. Try [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)! This month's activity? [Color in a 356!](#)



DID YOU KNOW...

We have a page chock of useful information?

- Past Driving Tours? Archived there.
- Tech Tips? Read 'em there.
- Some interesting Drives? Linked up there.
- Other Regions in Zone 3? Click on through!

Check out our "[Porsche Links](#)" page. If you have something to add, [submit it!](#)

(Caveat: most pages are "outside" our website, so no guarantee as to their viability or content. If you find a dead link, [let us know](#))



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Don't Just Attend Porsche Parade... ...Be a Part of It!



The objective of a PCA Rally is to follow a course from point to point, usually on public roads, to the precise detail specified in the rules - it can be competitive or for fun. Competitive Time Speed Distance (TSD) Rallies dictate a certain time schedule for the checkpoints along the way. Points are deducted by arriving at the checkpoint either early or late. Gimmick Rallies, also competitive rallies, may include a Gimmick (Poker Rally, regional interest). Part of the challenge with a Gimmick Rally is to discover the intended route, which may require other skills such as solving a puzzle. PCA Parade TSD Rallies use the Richta app for scoring and no expensive rally equipment is necessary ... all you need is a mobile phone. New to Rallying? Parade is a great time to give it a try!



June 18-24, 2023
La Quinta Resort & Club
Palm Springs, California
www.porscheparade.org



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PARTING SHOT – The Porsche Cayenne Convertible that almost happened...



(lovingly [lifted from Top Gear](#), thanks guys!!)

Although this was never “ready for prime time” many of us might have wanted to see it happen? Or not?

“Deploying even a hazy understanding of human activity and its appetite for the strange, there’s little doubt this very unusual motor car would have sold by the truckload. Welcome to the Porsche Cayenne convertible that never was.

Well it was, but only once. Porsche has been celebrating 20 years of the SUV that changed its fortunes (quite literally), and it has revealed that soon after the first-gen Cayenne was launched in 2002, three other variants were considered.

The Coupe (which we now get), a long-wheelbase SUV stretched by 20cm with a third row of seats (which we don't), and this: a 4.8m long convertible that “was not immediately discarded, but actually built”. The sole survivor now lives at home with its parents – in storage at the Porsche Museum.

Porsche says it’s not actually a road-going car, but what it’s calling a 'Package Function Model'. It doesn't possess body-stiffening measures that cabrios are usually treated to, and thus it's not safe or stable to drive. Indeed, it gets transported everywhere on a truck.”

Porsche has often come up with some “interesting” ideas...

(Program Note: Porsche DID NOT do this one...
Get all the [deets on this one-off](#) Thanks, Paul!!)



4-DOOR PORSCHE 911S

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

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



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