



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 2023

FROM THE REGION PRESIDENT

Spring Thing 2023 was a huge success and it was great to be back at the General Morgan Inn in Greeneville, TN. Mike Parker and Bob Southerland along with Suzan Bowman deserve a huge thanks for the hard work and effort put into the planning. In addition, they assembled a host of club members that planned and executed a well-run Concours, Gimmick Rally, Driving Tour and Autocross. Thanks to everyone that helped in the planning and working throughout the event. Now is the time to start planning for **Spring Thing 2024**. *We have reserved the General Morgan for April 26-28, 2024*, so please go ahead and mark your calendars so that you won't miss it.

April brings us a lot of new activities and events. We have our [monthly social scheduled for Tuesday, April 18th](#) at Olive Garden. Our [monthly Cars & Coffee](#) is scheduled for Saturday, April 22nd in Jefferson City. Harper's starts their [spring mega Cars & Coffee](#) off at West Town Mall on Sunday, April 23rd. Lastly, we have a driving tour to Brevard, NC to attend [Luft Wasser](#) scheduled for Saturday, April 29th. Be sure to come celebrate spring and the start of the driving season at one or more of these events.

On the horizon, several club members are busy planning driving tours to various destinations. Those include the Lane Motor Museum in Nashville, the Savoy Museum in Cartersville, GA and possibly the Wolf Mountain Vineyard in Dahlonega, GA. More to come on these exciting events in the upcoming months.

As mentioned last month, 2024 marks our 50th anniversary. We are currently assembling a planning committee to begin preparations for a celebration of this milestone event. I'd like to see a good cross mix of tenured and new members on this committee. If you'd like to help, please contact me at baughbob@yahoo.com.

As always, 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.

- [Porsche Parade 2023](#), Palm Springs, CA.
- 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

WAS A BLAST! Good weather, great people, good times had by all! See the Special feature article and "Parting Shot" further down the newsletter.

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 Cheers at Choto
- 9/19 Finn's Irish Pub
- 10/05 Eurotech
- 11/21 Calhouns Pellissippi
- 12/07 Christmas party at Gettysvue

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

- 06/17/23 – Barber Motorsports Park - [Register](#)
- 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 16 – Event 2, Kodak
- May 13-14 – Evo School - Event 3, Bristol



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- June 3-4 – Mopar 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!

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

Steven S.	1974 914 2.0 (A RETURN!!)
Lia A.	2007 911 Carrera 4 Cabriolet
John W.	2020 718 Cayman GT4
Kirstie & Joe J.	2020 Macan
Leslie K.	2010 911 Carrera S Cabriolet
Brett & Robert C.	2018 718 Cayman
Joseph B.	2021 Macan S
Aurelio V.	2004 911 40th Anniversary
Ray T.	2014 911 Carrera

SPEAKING OF NEW MEMBERS...

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



DID YOU KNOW...

We have SMT PCA Newsletters archived online back to 2009? Well, we do! Check them out at

<https://smt pca.org/smoke-signals/>

FORMATION OF A 50TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Next year marks the Smoky Mountain Region's 50th anniversary as a PCA Region. Given this significant milestone event, we are assembling a planning committee of around 5-6 club members. Ideally, the committee would include a diverse mix of members including those with both long term and short term membership. If you'd be willing to serve on this special committee, please let Bob Baugh know (baughbob@yahoo.com). Again, all are welcome.

SPRING THING No. 47

By Suzan Bowman

Several months ago, President Bob Baugh asked for someone to plan Spring Thing. It was uncertain where to have the 47th since the autocross site at Bristol could not be confirmed early in the planning process. But we had to also confirm the autocross site at Greeneville airport if we went there. Just a few of details that had to work out.

Enter Bob Southerland, a.k.a., **Mr. Greeneville**, TN. He knows everyone in Greeneville and can make a call and generally gets done what he wants. As the former VP of Marketing for Food City, he has made a lot of friends over the years. Even the City Garage Car Museum has its own section devoted to Bob's popularity. Bob set up discussions with the current city leaders and things started happening.

Enter Mike Parker. Mike has experience with large events. He was the national Parade chairman for the 1981 Asheville Porsche Club of America Parade where they held the Concours D' Elegance on the front lawn of the Biltmore mansion. With these two guys who know how to get things done at the helm, the planning began. We thank them for the many hours of work to make the weekend successful.

Sponsors: We also have to thank our sponsors and partners: Harper Porsche in Knoxville, Michelin and Bridgestone Tires, RS Xperience, Knox Details, Eurotech Knoxville Sales and Service, Reliable Carriers, The Greene County Partnership, and the General Morgan Inn.

It is now three weeks after the event and from most reports it was a success. At least the weather cooperated!

Venue: We send our thanks to the General Morgan Inn for their true southern hospitality. Did you see the real Civil War Cannon in the parking area at the General Morgan? Mr. Scott Niswonger who owns the hotel, set up the cannon just for us! What a one- of-a kind delight for all to see.

Highlights of the weekend included a visit by the City and County Mayors to our Friday night welcome reception. The City of Greeneville and Greene County went above and beyond to make this event happen in 2023. They worked with the Tourism Bureau and Greene County Partnership to secure some wonderful regional art that was donated for our charity auction on Saturday evening.



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Concours: The Concours on Saturday morning was a little wet at first but the team of Concours Chairman Vic Rola and Head Judge Peter Lepir, did not let a damp overnight deter them. Soon the blue skies opened up to a beautiful spring day and 22 cars were carefully placed in the overflow parking lot. Thanks to the judges and timers who spent quality time peering over each car to look for that elusive piece of dirt. The People's Choice award went to Lee and Suzanne Fowler in their 1965 356C and the Judges Choice went to Allan and Rose Cox's 1979 911 SC.

Lunch at the Museum: Then it was off to lunch at the City Garage Car Museum. Betty Ann and Ken Bewely welcomed the club with open arms to view the new acquisitions to the museum and have lunch in their 1950's Diner. The table decorations were handmade with our logo and in the German colors. They also came up with a trivia game at the tables on the history of Porsche. We visited the Museum in 2015 and they have added about 6 new automobiles that did not disappoint!

The Holston United Methodist Home for Children in Greeneville has a catering arm that teaches the children who live there to cook and cater food. We bought our delicious buffet lunch from them.

Rallies: After lunch, the two Rally Meister's rounded up the cars and set out on two different drives on the beautiful roads in Greene County. Matt & Teresa Fischer designed a mountainous tour called the Gimmick Rally. Ask someone on the Gimmick Rally about "The Gimmick".

Clyde Peery with the help of Allan Cox and Mike Parker designed a rolling hills and valleys Rally through the countryside. One of Clyde's passions is the TSD Rally. But this year, he wanted more people to experience the feel of a real Rally so he designed a Rally/Tour and a Guided Tour. Folks were able to explore the Davy Crockett Birthplace State Park and Museum.

Awards Banquet: The Saturday night pre-banquet activity was designed to provide income for our three designated charities for 2023. With the addition of Bear Stephenson, a local auctioneer, a lively LIVE auction was held to auction off a set of Michelin Tires, Harper's Porsche donated two driving experiences; 911 Turbo S and 911 GT3 at the Porsche Experience Center in Atlanta, Andy Papa of RS Xperience donated 2 two-day Smoky Mountain driving experiences for later this year, an original watercolor painting was donated by Lawrence Danecke through the

Greeneville Partnership, Harper's Porsche donated a limited production Pink Pig Thermo Cup from Harper's, and a limited edition purple Thermo Cup.

Harper's also donated limited edition T-shirts, Knox Details donated hats, travel mugs, and a polo shirt. Eurotech donated several gift cards. Alayna Smith from the Greene County Partnership secured donations of original watercolors by Natalie Richardson and Jeff Taylor.

The Ginko Gallery in Greeneville owned by George Wurtzel, a.k.a. the Subaru Guy- from the commercials on TV, donated an original handcrafted ice cream scoop and a biscuit cutter from his business across from the GMI.

It's The People: One of the best things about Spring Thing is the camaraderie and friendships that develops between participants over the years. Suzanne and Lee Fowler donated 9 pieces of etched glass that he made and a handmade cross stitch and beautiful Afghan that she made. These folks traveled to Greeneville in their 1965 356 from Alabama and made room to bring all the wonderful artwork to donate to the charity fund.

The Live and silent auction raised money to provide camp experiences and gift cards for Christmas for the young people we sponsor. Smoky Mountain Region appreciates all of the donations from participants. We hope you enjoy your items.

Autocross: The General Morgan Inn provided a complementary "on the go" breakfast items on Sunday morning as at least half of the group headed out for the Greeneville Airport. Todd Sutton, the Autocross Chairman, with help from Jamie Parton, John McDermott, and Carl Justice, designed and set up a fast and curvy course on the Greeneville Airport. 25 participants (plus one Corvette) put their Porsches through the paces in front of the main hangar and the Top Dog Lunch Wagon food truck provided some yummy meals. Fastest Time of Day Men was Jamie Parton and Fastest Time of Day Women was Suzan Bowman. Unfortunately, the autocross ended early due to an unexpected return of an airplane to the airport. We are very sorry that those in the second run group were cut short on their runs.

Overall the weekend was successful and many people said they wanted to attend next year as the Smoky Mountain Region celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the club. **Mark your calendars now for April 26-28, 2024 in Greeneville!**



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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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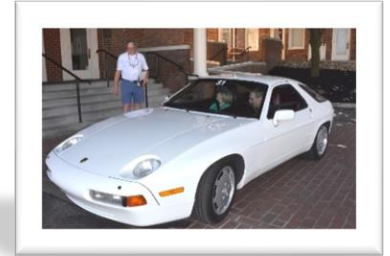
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PARTING SHOT – Spring Thing 2023!

Here is a smattering of shots from the event. For all the shots, checkout the website.

<https://smtPCA.org/photo-gallery/spring-thing-2023/>





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



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Vehicles taken seriously.™



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