



# 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 – JULY 2023

### FROM THE REGION PRESIDENT

Thus far, it's been a great summer of events. Regardless of whether it's a social, driving tour or a Cars & Coffee event, it's been fun seeing all the members getting together and enjoying one another's company.

This past month, we helped celebrate Porsche's 75th anniversary at Harper Porsche. It was a fun event and very well attended. Thanks go to Shannon and his team for hosting this anniversary celebration. In addition, thanks to Rich McGowan for putting together [a fun trip to Nashville](#) to visit the Lane Motor Museum. I had never visited this museum before and was amazed at the collection owner, Jeff Lane, has assembled. I highly recommend stopping by and visiting Lane Motor Museum when you are in Nashville.

This month is being dedicated to you, our PCA members. As a token of our appreciation for being part of the largest single marque car club in the world, Harper Porsche is hosting a [PCA Appreciation Social and New Member Welcome](#) at the dealership on Thursday, July 20th. You are the lifeblood of this club and this event is just a small token of our appreciation. Food will be provided by Chuy's and variety of beverages will be on hand as well. Sign ups are currently ongoing. Contact Penne Baugh at [baughph@yahoo.com](mailto:baughph@yahoo.com) to get your name on the list. Harper Porsche will also have their 993 restoration project on display in the showroom and staff will be on hand to discuss the direction they are taking with this project.

In addition, our [monthly Cars & Coffee](#) will be in Karns at Beaver's Dough-Joe on Saturday, July 15th from 8 to 10 AM. This informal event has proven to be a popular draw and we are seeing about 20 cars at each get together.

We also have a fun [driving tour scheduled for Saturday, July 29th](#). While we have so many fun roads to experience here in East Tennessee, all too often, we want to revert back to those tried and tested curves that we've come to enjoy. Not this month though. We've laid out a fun route to points northwest of Knoxville. Beginning in Oak Ridge, we will travel over Crab Orchard Mountain and through Elk Valley to the town of Jellico and then hook back down for a late lunch at a local small town diner in LaFollette. Our driving tours always turn out to be fun events and are a great way to get to know new club members. Sign ups are ongoing and to get your name on the list, please contact me at [baughbob@yahoo.com](mailto:baughbob@yahoo.com).

Before too long, we will begin giving thought to activities and events for 2024. Get those neurons firing on new things for us to do. Jot them down in an email to mail or tell me about your ideas at one of our functions. Beyond those great ideas is the planning and execution. We can use help there. Whether it be helping plan socials, leading a driving tour or even helping with our Cars & Coffee events, we will gladly accept your offer of assistance. For our newer members, volunteering is an excellent way to get to know other members and help you become more familiar and comfortable with the club.

Hopefully, we are providing everyone with lots of different events to choose from. We go to great lengths to assemble a variety of activities, and to also vary our event locations and destinations to make participating more convenient. So, in closing, please come join us at one or more of our events and most importantly, get out and exercise those P-cars. They are meant to be driven and enjoyed!

*Safe travels,  
Bob*

### THINGS ON THE HORIZON

- 7/15 – [SMTPCA Cars & Coffee](#), Beaver's Dough Joe, Karns
- 7/20 – [Monthly Social](#), Harper Porsche
- 7/29 – [Driving Tour through Elk Valley](#)
- 8/06 – Harper Auto Square's [Cars & Coffee](#)
- 8/15 – Monthly Social, [Cheers at Choto](#)
- [Please bring your ideas!](#)

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

### RUNNING FAST

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

#### Alabama Region PCA Driver's Education

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

#### Peachstate Region PCA Driver's Education

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

#### East Tennessee Region SCCA Events

- 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



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### SPEAKING OF AUTOCROSS...

We have secured an Autocross site in Knoxville for 2023. As the details are being ironed out, the exact location is TBA. This will be closer to most of the club members, and conducive to a good event. The dates are:

- September 17, 2023: Stand-alone Autocross
- October 22, 2023: Stand-alone Autocross
- November 12, 2023: Autocross in conjunction with a possible Fall Fest.

These will be normal autocrosses with morning and afternoon sessions, about six runs each.

**GET YOUR TIRES SCUFFED AND READY TO GO!!**

### NEW MEMBER ROUNDUP – WELCOME!

**JUNE 2023** - Say "Hi!" to our new members!

Philip & Donna H.	2020 Macan
Ken & Sara E.	2017 911 Turbo S Cab
Dillon S.	2007 911 Turbo
Ken P.	2022 911 GT3

### SPEAKING OF NEW MEMBERS...

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



### PERFORMANCE DRIVING

*By John McDermott*

Well, the **autocross** season is well under way! So far there have been 4 SCCA events and the Porsche mark was well represented. Some of the participants include: Jamie Parton, Todd Sutton, Dave Yoder, Bo Whaley, Carl Justice and Russ Johnson (Wilderness Trail), David Vetter (Appalachian Region), and John McDermott. There are 5 more SCCA events scheduled for this year. If you're interested in learning more, ask one of the people mentioned or check out the website: [www.etrscga.org](http://www.etrscga.org). We hope you'll come out and give it a try!

As previously mentioned, our club has 3 of our own autocross events scheduled. The dates are listed elsewhere and more information will be forthcoming.

Ever wonder what it's like to drive your car on a racetrack? **High Performance Driving Education (HPDEs)** are scheduled all during the year at various tracks. Many of the tracks have professional races held at them such as Watkins Glen, Barber, and VIR. Depending upon your experience, those new to the sport or with limited experience would be assigned an instructor. The instructors work with you to build your capability in driving on a track, learning the correct drive line, appropriate braking point and passing. Some events have a DEX group. This group drives at road speeds on the track with an instructor in the car. They typically are only one day and about a \$100 fee.

So far this year, we have had 12 people (club members and a few of their sons), participate in HPDEs. The season kicked off late April with Jamie Parton, Carl Justice, Rick Berry, Matt Fischer and John McDermott driving at Virginia International Raceway (VIR), sponsored by the First Settlers Region. It is a 3.5-mile track with long straights.



The second event over Memorial Day weekend, Jamie Parton, Todd Sutton and Carl Justice ran at National Corvette Museum Motorsports Park. This event was put on by 10-10ths, an organization that runs HPDEs at different tracks across the country. This track is approximately 2.9 miles long with over 20 turns!





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The beginning of June, Rich McGowan and his son Travis drove at VIR, sponsored by the Carolina Region. They both stretched their legs on the 3.5-mile track.

The most recent event was Father's Day weekend at Barber Motorsports Park. This track has been characterized as the Augusta of racetracks. It is in a beautiful setting. As a bonus, Barber is the location of the world's largest motorcycle museum. The museum encompasses 4 floors covering many different eras and types of bikes (you may even see a Lotus display).

Todd Sutton and his son Taylor, Bo Whaley, Mark Demange, Paul Traccarella (first time HPDEr) and John McDermott drive the 2.5-mile track with 17 turns.



Several folks have signed up for the September 23-24 event at Barber, put on by the Alabama Region. If you want to know what it's like, reach out to one of those who have participated.

### SMOKY MOUNTAIN CARS & COFFEE

Our "informal gatherings" on Saturday mornings are back on track. So far we've done Lisa's Kitchen, Shoney's, Ugly Mug, and then up next at [Beaver's Dough Joe](#) in Karns. That's always a crowd pleaser as they make some righteous doughnuts! Last time we had 50+ cars there!!



### JUNE DRIVING TOUR – LANE MUSEUM

We took an overnight trip to Nashville to visit the Lane Motor Museum in Nashville. We had a catered box lunch in a private meeting room, then we had the afternoon to tour the museum. We perused the general exhibits for a couple hours, then we had a special vault tour at 3PM.

After the tour we had our own informal cocktail hour at the hotel, then met up at dinner at the Santa Fe Cattle Company. The restaurant was a 2-minute walk from our hotel, so no driving was required.



On Sunday, we returned on your own schedule, and boy howdy some of us hit a gully washer on the Cumberland Plateau! Here are some pix from the event. Thanks to Rich, et al., for pulling this off for us!

### SPRING THING 2024

Plan to attend next year as the Smoky Mountain Region celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the club. Please say "THANKS!!" to Tom and Kathy for stepping up to run Spring Thing in 2024.

**Mark your calendars now for April 26-28, 2024, in Greeneville!**





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## Driving Tours - Concours

## Socials & Tech Quiz

Event Dates: September 7-10, 2023

# Registration is Open

*Join us at*  
**Waynesville Inn & Golf Club**  
Waynesville, NC

**For more information: [www.Appalachian-Adventure.com](http://www.Appalachian-Adventure.com)**

Appalachian Region just opened registration for their Appalachian Adventure three-day event that occurs this September 7-10, 2023, to be held at the Waynesville Inn and Golf Club in Waynesville, NC. This multi-event weekend includes:

- Thursday, September 7: Welcome Reception. Dinner will be on your own.
- Friday September 8: Continental Breakfast, Driving Tours, Group Dinner at the Hotel
- Saturday September 9: Continental Breakfast, Concours, Special Event, Awards Dinner at the Hotel
- Sunday September 10: Continental Breakfast and Fond Farewells until Next Year!

Hotel registration is now open, and Event Registration is open to people that have room reservations. [Go online](#) for all the details and reservation and registration info!



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### PARTING SHOT – Porsche 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Harper Porsche, June 10, 2023

Hundreds of folks turned out for the celebration at Harper's that lovely Saturday morning, and there was all kinds of fun and goodies (and Porsches) to see. Breakfast snackies, coffee, various bling, and even a made to order celebratory T-shirt was available. We spent the morning looking at beautiful cars, mingling about, and just enjoying a nice day out.





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



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