



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 – MAY 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Do you recall the old saying, "April showers bring May flowers"? Well, it seems that this year, April showers bring May showers, so maybe we will now have June flowers. The point being is that for some, wet weather is not conducive to driving their P-Car. For others, it doesn't matter.

At this writing, we have a driving tour scheduled to occur in 2-days and the forecast is a hefty 75% chance of rain, with totals around 3/4" on the day of the drive. Members may not realize that our driving tours, socials, autocross events and Cars & Coffee are scheduled at least 1 month out, and most of the time several months in advance. As the date approaches, members can decide whether to participate or not. That's what I love about this club... events are there for the taking and if you don't participate at every event it's OK. We just want you to participate when you are able and hopefully we are putting together events that you enjoy. (Ed. We had 8 cars and a blast!)

Since last month, our events were well attended, including Harper's Cars & Coffee and Porsche Platica. Kudo's to Shannon and the Harper's Team for putting together these fun events. Spring Thing 2024 was a success and plans are already underway for 2025. Our socials have been planned for the remainder of the year too! However, I can still use help on organizing and leading our driving tours. If you'd like to help with this, please let me know. Personally, I enjoy organizing driving tours. When Penne and I joined in 2016, tours were the first thing that we started volunteering with. If you are interested in taking one on, I'd be glad to guide you through the process.

Porsche Parade is in June and several members will be attending. Following Parade, the Alabama Region is hosting a Driver's Education Event at Barber and more members will be joining the Parade goers for this event. Needless to say trip reports from both will be in the June or July issue of Smoke signals.

Have a great month, enjoy those P-Cars and be safe.

- Bob

WHAT IS COMING UP?

The calendar is filling up, and more to come!

- May 21 – Monthly Social, [PF Chang's, Knoxville](#)
- June 9-15 – [Porsche Parade 2024](#), Birmingham, Alabama
- June 18 – Monthly Social, [Carolina Ale House](#)

- July 25 – PCA Appreciation Social, Harper Porsche
Keep an eye on our [calendar for](#) socials and autocross dates!

NEW MEMBER ROUNDUP – WELCOME!

APRIL 2024 - Say "Hi!" to our new members!

Lewis C.	1999 911 Carrera Cabriolet
Brad E.	1988 911 Carrera
Jimmy R.	2005 Cayenne S
Adam & Jiayi S.	2001 Boxster
Arthur & Donna K.	2013 911 Carrera
Carl & Tabitha J.	2016 Cayenne
Russ & Cary J.	2023 Macan GTS
Chris R.	2018 718 Boxster GTS
Glenn & Heather N.	2022 911 GT3
Stephen S.	2021 718 Cayman GT4

SPEAKING OF NEW MEMBERS...

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



SPRING THING 2024

Annnnnnnndddd... THAT'S A WRAP! Another Spring Thing is complete, and wonderful times were had. Weather was beautiful, the Concours was lovely, and the Gimmick Rally and Autocross went well. Forty-five cars from all over the southeast showed up, we caught up with old friends, and made new ones. Some more details are in this month's *Parting Shot*, but you can [link to the pictures here](#).

PORSCHE PARADE 2024

Phase I & II Registration has happened, and we have a good crowd going this year. [Parade 2024](#) is close by in Birmingham, Alabama, on June 9-15, 2024; we'll see and meet friends from all over. This is great time to see many Porsches, take part in some great events make new friends, and check out a new area. Keep tabs on various venues for the details.

<https://www.porscheparade.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/PorscheParade>





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SPEED SEASON IS COMING

Things are warming up, and that means driving fast, in safe and controlled conditions, of course. Our [autocross dates are set](#), and many are signing up for HPDEs. There is large SMT Contingent heading to the [Father's Day Barber HPDE](#) right after Parade.

DE's, AUTOCROSSES, & OTHER FUN FOR 2024

- **Smoky Mountain Region Autocrosses:**
[We have some on the books!!!](#)
- **Alabama Region PCA Driver's Education:**
<https://ala.pca.org/hpde-details/>
- **Peachstate Region PCA Driver's Education:**
<https://www.peachstatepca.org/Calendar/2024/2/0>
- **East Tennessee Region SCCA Events:**
<http://www.etrscga.org/msr-calendar/>

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. Your PCA Junior will receive a welcome box, and many region events include activities for children and teens geared to grow enthusiasm for Porsche and PCA. Keep up with all the latest by subscribing to the [PCA Juniors Newsletter](#). It is produced for parents and sponsors of PCA Juniors and is intended to create engagement and interaction.

PORSCHE 928 CONVERTIBLE

- *Harvey Goranson*

Porsche built a 928 convertible prototype in 1987 but it didn't go very far. Prior to this, Carelli Design built a very small run of modified 928 cabrios. AutoCult has made 1/43 scale models of both in resin earlier this year.



There are several differences between the two, most notably that the Carelli is a 2-seater while the prototype has a small rear seat (2+2 arrangement).

And if so inclined, there are a few of the after-market conversions [available for sale](#)

PORSCHE PLATICA

Harper Porsche Hosted "Porsche Platica" at The Quarry Venue Sunday, May 5th, with a 25 car Porsche display highlighting a some unique Porsche models in this area. Smoky Mountain made a good showing, and even helped park cars, got some merch, and even a 'Targarita' courtesy of Harper Porsche.





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PARTING SHOT – SPRING THING 2024

The weather was beautiful, the people were great, and good times were had by all. Sunday's Autocross wrapped up another edition of the Smoky Mountain Region Spring Thing, and many thanks to all that made it happen. Congratulations to Tom and Kathy for coordinating this show, and thanks to Jamie and Bob for "greasing the local wheels". And of course thanks to all that pitched in to volunteer where needed and when needed.

As they say, "It's not just the cars...". Here are some Pictures of the good times.

- [FRIDAY – IT'S A PARTY](#)
- [SATURDAY – CONCOURS, GIMMICK RALLY, & THE BANQUET](#)
- [SUNDAY – AUTOCROSS](#)





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Join a PCA Special Interest Register today!

PCA has 20 registries for those super enthusiastic about their Porsche model!

The PCA Registry program was established in 1995 to encourage closer relationships within Porsche model owners in PCA. The program allows PCA members to network with others in their specific area of interest. Sharing of information fosters restoration and maintenance of members' automobiles. A registry can potentially provide a new resource for historical displays at Parades and other PCA events, along with information for articles in Porsche Panorama. Don't see a registry for your Porsche? We are also looking for individuals who are interested in starting a registry for a model that doesn't have an existing registry.

CHECK OUT THE REGISTRIES AT: www.pca.org/connect/special-interest-groups

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

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



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Harper Porsche



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MICHELIN



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