



# 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 2024

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As my term as President of this incredible club draws to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on the journey we've shared together. It has truly been an honor to serve this vibrant, passionate community of Porsche enthusiasts, and I feel deeply grateful for the trust you've placed in me over these past 4 years.

When I first stepped into this role, I could never have anticipated the bonds we would form, the events we would organize, and the memories we would create. Together, we've shared countless drives, celebrated our love for these remarkable cars, and, most importantly, built lasting friendships that extend far beyond the parking lot.

We've seen growth and excitement across all areas of our club. Our driving tours, dining social events, autocross sessions, Cars & Coffee get togethers, and high-performance driving experiences have all been a huge success. Whether we were navigating the winding roads through scenic landscapes or pushing ourselves to the limit at the track or just enjoying one another's company at a social, every event has been an opportunity to share our love of these exceptional machines, but even more importantly, a time to come together as a car club family and support one another. We all know PCA's motto... it's not just the cars. I'd like to revise that in this message to say; It's not just the cars, it's about the friendships, the memories and the sense of community we've built together.

But it's not all about speed and precision; we've also made a positive impact in our local community. Through our philanthropic efforts and volunteer-driven initiatives, we've demonstrated that the Smoky Mountain Region isn't just a collection of car lovers—it's a group of people committed to making a difference. From fundraising events to hands-on volunteer work, it's inspiring to see the enthusiasm and generosity of our members.

I'd like to extend my deepest gratitude to the board, the volunteers, and all of you who've dedicated time and energy to making our club what it is today. Your dedication and passion for Porsche and the camaraderie it brings have been the driving force behind everything we've accomplished.

As I pass the torch to Todd Sutton, your incoming President, I have full confidence that the future of the club is in excellent hands. Todd's passion for the club and his leadership will undoubtedly bring new energy and exciting

initiatives to further elevate our experience. I also want to extend a warm welcome to the new members of the board, whose fresh ideas and dedication will help shape the next chapter of our club's journey.

Thank you all for making these past four years so memorable. It's been an incredible ride, and I will cherish these memories for years to come. Penne and I love this club and the friendships we've made and look forward to the events that we'll share with everyone in the future.

May the road ahead always be smooth, and may we continue to share the thrill of driving.

Safe Travels!! *Bob*

### WHAT IS COMING UP?

**2025! That's what!** The new calendar is under development, so if you have some ideas, and are willing to run with it or help out, [let us know!](#)

Keep an eye on our [calendar for](#) more!

### SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION GIVES MORE

Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> a bunch of Smoky Mountaineers saddled up for a drive to [Kingswood Home for Children](#) to distribute our annual gift. It was a beautiful day and nice drive. Thanks to all that give for these charitable acts, sharing our blessings with others.





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### NEW MEMBER ROUNDUP – WELCOME!

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

Bogdan K.	2014 911 Carrera 4
Lucas & Elisha K.	2020 911 Carrera 4S Cabriolet
Michael & Lisa W.	2024 Macan S
Charles A.	2001 911 Carrera
Joel D.	2018 718 Boxster GTS

### SPEAKING OF NEW MEMBERS...

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



### SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS PARTY

The 2024 Smoky Mountain Region PCA Christmas party was held at [Chesapeake's Seafood House West](#) on Thursday, December 12th. Seventy-ish members showed up for good times, good friends, and reminiscing 2024!



### THE VISION 357 CONCEPT CAR

By Harvey Goranson

The Vision 357 concept car was described in the April 2023 issue of Panorama, and now it exists as a 1:43 scale model. One thing the real car and the model have in common is the lack of a working engine! A translucent roof allows viewing of the interior.



It is available as [Porsche part No. WAP0200020S357](#), it was made by Spark in, of all places, Madagascar.

### TRACK RATS & PERFORMANCE EVENTS

While some tweak and modify and plan and save this winter off-season, remember the upcoming year has a lot of events coming up. Region autocrosses, SCCA autocrosses, Zone led [PCA sponsored "High Performance Driver's Education"](#) events: and if that is not enough, there are non-PCA track events as well.

If you would like a taste but not in your car, and with excellent instruction, there is the [Porsche Track Experience Birmingham](#) at Barber Motorsports Park. You can start with "Introductory" classes and go all the way through a "Ph.D." The [Porsche Experience Center Atlanta](#) also has a number of courses and driving events to whet your appetite. These are highly regulated, safety-oriented opportunities to see what these cars were built for.

Using your own car, most PCA HPDE events we run in are by the [Alabama \(Barber Motorsports Park\)](#) and [Peachstate \(Road Atlanta\)](#) regions. For 2025, The Rats are looking at [NCM](#) in May and possibly [Mid-Ohio](#) and/or others later on.

*Remember, smooth is fast, and shiny side up!*

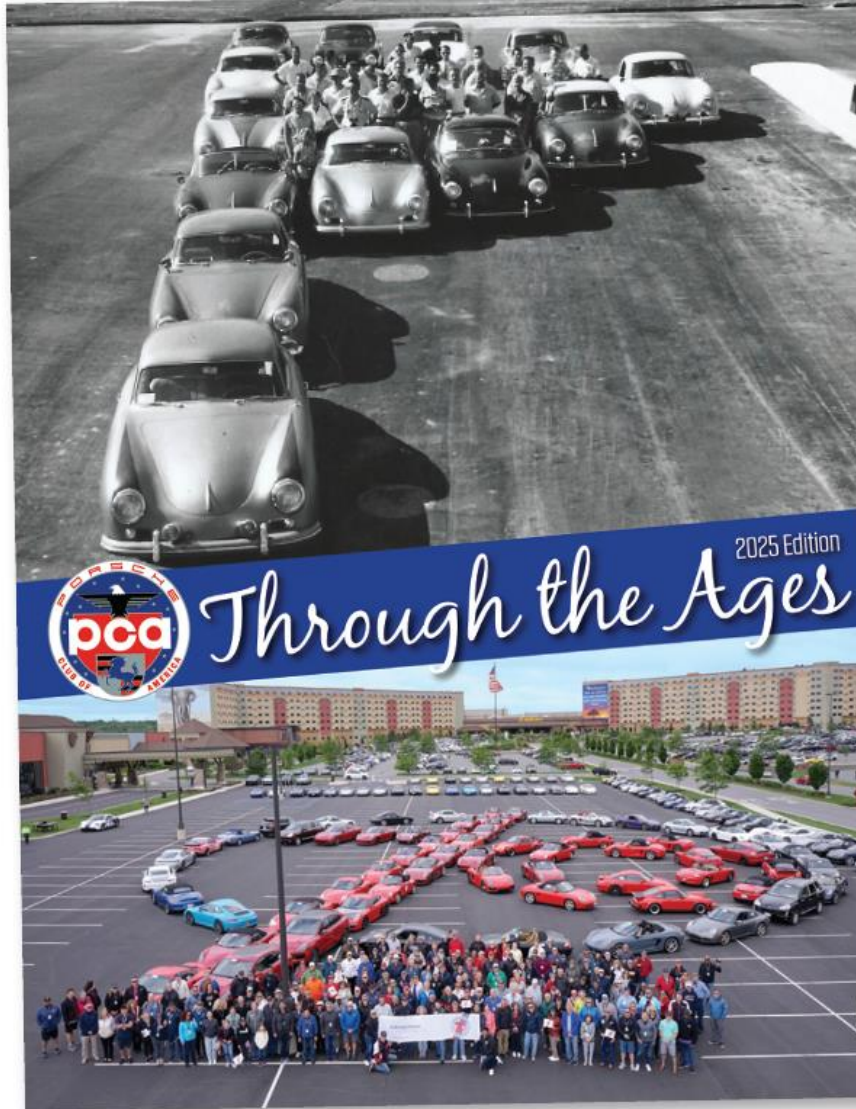


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**Bill Sholar**  
PCA Founder

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**The First Porsche Parade**  
PCA National Rally

**The First Porsche Parade, WHAT'S IN A NAME?**  
PCA National Rally

## Updated PCA History Book Online Now!

*Through the Ages* now features the latest club events and programs

New for 2025, the Porsche Club of America History Book contains an overview of the club's history, followed by individual sections covering specific detailed items. Some sections were designed for use as standalone articles for region newsletters. Individual chapters and page numbers can be "clicked on" from the contents page. Major National Awards are also included.

Take a look: <https://ww2.pca.org/pca-history>



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### PARTING SHOT – Pano's "From The Regions" 2024

The Smoky Mountain Region got a lot of national attention this year in the PCA magazine, [Panorama](#).



▲ "Once again, nearly 100 PCA members took over the General Morgan Inn in Greeneville, Tennessee, for Smoky Mountain Region's annual Spring Thing. The Saturday morning concours featured many beautiful Porsches, followed by an afternoon gimmick rally through the Smoky Mountains. We finished off the weekend with an autocross on Sunday."

—MATT FISCHER  
Smoky Mountain Region



▲ "Smoky Mountain Region's (L-R) Pam Sutton, Janis Berry, Teresa Hermann, and Cary Johnson drove in Peachstate Region's Ladies Only HPDE at Atlanta Motorsports Park on February 17. This was the first track event for some, and all reported having a blast exercising this grand stable of GT cars."

—MATT FISCHER  
Smoky Mountain Region



▲ "Mike Parker and Suzan Bowman 'dined' where it all started, Blackie's House of Beef in Washington, D.C., as enshrined at PCA National Headquarters. Vu Nguyen, PCA National Executive Director, gave them a tour. Blackie's is where some of the charter members of PCA held their first official meeting on September 13, 1955."

—MATT FISCHER  
Smoky Mountain Region



▲ "Smoky Mountain Region members (L-R) Suzanne Bowman, Clyde Perry, and Steve Franklin poured out a low country boil at Hannah Franklin's family getaway at Amelia Island after a great Werks Reunion. About two dozen members showed up to feast, and a good time was had."

—MATT FISCHER  
Smoky Mountain Region



▲ "After attending Parade 2024, a dozen Smoky Mountain members shifted to DE mode and attended the Alabama Region Father's Day drivers education event at Barber Motorsports Park near Birmingham. We had two days of fun, intense driving, with five drivers advancing to the next group. Good times, fun cars, great people!"

—MATT FISCHER  
Smoky Mountain Region



◀ "Neither snow, nor ice, nor slush kept Smoky Mountain Region's Teresa Fischer's Miami Blue Macan GTS from the swift completion of her appointed rounds. She also got a giggle out of passing all the big 4x4 pickups and Jeeps stuck at the bottom of the hill during East Tennessee's January arctic double whammy."

—MATT FISCHER  
Smoky Mountain Region



◀ "Smoky Mountain Region Caymans had a good showing at the Peachstate Region Oktoberfest 2024 HPDE. Some honed their skills, some advanced groups, others tried new setups, and a good time was had by all. (L-R): Russ Johnson, Allan Cox, Matt Fischer, Todd Sutton, Carl Justice, and Jamie Parton."

—MATT FISCHER  
Smoky Mountain Region



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



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