



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 – FEBRUARY 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is great to see the weather changing and people getting out and driving. I'd like to welcome the many new members joining our region, either new to PCA or transferring in from other regions. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you, I think you will truly enjoy the variety our club offers you.

Your board has been busy, and one thing I am quite excited about is the creation of our first-ever [High Performance Driver's Education](#) (HPDE) chair at the board level. Carl Justice has agreed to fill that role for the club, and he will be introducing himself to you in this newsletter. As we look to expand the range of activities we support as a club, HPDE's offer one more level of engagement with your car and your fellow club members that you can enjoy. He will be creating content regularly and is at the ready to support club members that are interested in learning more about and hopefully participating in DE's.

Beyond that, our [next social is coming up](#) on the 18th, driving tours will resume in March, and preparations have been made for another fantastic [Spring Thing in early April](#). There is also a good-sized group signed up for a DE at Barber in March, and a few more already on the calendar for the rest of the year. I hope after you read Carl's intro a few more people will join us at the track.

For now, let's get those cars out of winter storage and hit the roads! See you all soon. *Todd*

WHAT IS COMING UP?

The calendar is filling up. If you have ideas and are willing to run with it or help, [let us know!](#)

- Feb 18 – Monthly Social at [Double Dogs Hardin Valley](#)
- Feb/Mar ? – Concours Judging School
- Mar 6-9 – Concours at Amelia Island
- Mar 7 – Werks Reunion Amelia Island
- Mar 18 – Monthly Social at [Monkey Town Brewing](#)
- Apr 4-6 – [Spring Thing 2025](#) at The General Morgan
Keep an eye on our [calendar for](#) more!

SPRING THING 2025

Mark your calendars, April 4-6, 2025. We are back at The General Morgan in Greenville for another rousing weekend of Porsche Fun & Friends. As usual, there will be social hours, a Concours, some Driving, a Banquet, and an Autocross.

Check out the [details and registration online](#).



NEW MEMBER ROUNDUP – WELCOME!

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

Michael D.	2025 718 Cayman GTS 4.0
Douglas H.	2024 911 Carrera S
Bob C.	PCA's Test Drive
Daniel D.	2005 Boxster
Krys & Tracy R.	2020 Macan GTS
Sean & Veronica C.	2021 911 Carrera S
Brent P.	2022 Taycan 4 Cross Turismo
Raymond & Glyn R.	2025 Macan GTS
John W.	2022 718 Boxster GTS 4.0
Steve T.	2017 Macan GTS

Speaking of new members...

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

PORSCHE PARADE 2025



Registration opens in February, so now it is time to start planning!! [Parade 2025](#) is July 6-12, 2025 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. This is a great time to see many Porsches, take part in some great events (autocross at THE NEXT LEVEL!), make new friends, and check out a new area. Registration happens in two phases.
PHASE 1: February 26, 2025, Parade and lodging
PHASE 2: May 7, 2025, events & tours, etc.

Keep tabs on various websites and social media so you can sign up in time: IT FILLS UP FAST. When they say "Registration opens at XX PM" be on the that webpage, ready to click fast and furious!

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



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WELCOME OUR HPDE CHAIR & COMMITTEE

HELLO! I'm Carl Justice, your new HPDE ([High-Performance Driver Education](#)) chair, and I couldn't be more excited to take on this role for the club. By day, I'm a Control Systems Engineer / OT Cybersecurity Professional; on the weekend, I'm a track junky who loves chasing apexes, turning wrenches, and diving into the science behind going fast. It's an honor to be held in high enough regard by the Track Rats to be nominated and by the region leadership to be voted into this position, and I'm here to make our track days even better while encouraging more of you to join the fun!

Why am I here, you ask? In the past year, we've grown from a very small group to around 20 SMT members participating in HPDE events! The members that make up this group range from First Timer's to PCA HPDE Instructors. With all the experience we have amongst this group, I'm here to help get our beginners up to speed quicker and to help share this knowledge and experience that will benefit even our most advanced drivers!

In the coming months, I'll be writing articles on some more advanced driving and technical topics, but for now, I'd like to focus on the basics—because I know there are members out there who are curious but aren't sure how to get started. Maybe you don't know who to talk to, or maybe you feel a little anxious about trying something new. That's okay! I'm here to help you take that first step.

Even if you don't plan to become a full-blown Track Rat (yet), I truly believe that every Porsche owner owes it to themselves to experience what these cars were built to do—at least once. You'll not only have the time of your life, but you might just find yourself hooked on the adrenaline and precision of track driving like so many of us already are.

So, let's make 2025 an incredible year for HPDE! Whether you're an experienced Track Rat or a first-timer, I'm here to support you, answer your questions, and make your track day journey as fun and rewarding as possible. [Feel free to reach out](#) if you're curious about participating—I promise, it's an experience you'll never forget.

Beyond the SMT emails, keep an eye on the [Smoky Mountain Region dedicated HPDE page](#) so we can keep you updated! Plans include a calendar of events being attended by our crew and a home for all this content!

Let's hit the track! - Carl

CONCOURS JUDGING SCHOOL

Mike Parker is going to organize a concours judging school for new participants and potential judges, and he is planning to do it before Spring Thing. This will drive interest in participating and perhaps identify some potential additional judges to help!

TRACK RATS & PERFORMANCE EVENTS

The Track Rats met recently to plan and discuss and check out some cars new to The Paddock. Below is a tentative schedule of 2025 events some drivers will be attending.

- [March 22/23 Barber](#) for a few folks
- [May 24/25 NCM](#) a larger group
- [September 12-14 Mid-Ohio](#) for a few folks
- [September 20/21 Road Atlanta](#)
- VIR is still TBD

If you are interested in going, or have questions, please [contact our HPDE Chair](#).

Remember, smooth is fast, and shiny side up!

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 for generations to come.

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.

Ameila Concours/Werks Reunion, March 2025

Another Annual National event [many Smoky Mountain Region members attend](#) are the PCA's "[Werks Reunion Amelia Island](#)" (March 7, 2025) and the "[Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance](#)" (March 6-9, 2025). Some trek down for a long weekend, or just for those events, and it is grand time in northeast Florida.

Registration for the Concours and the Werks Reunion are already open. We know many Smoky Mountain couples always head down for that weekend, and some even making an extended Southern Tour of it.



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PARTING SHOT – Porsche 956 Group C sports-prototype

By Harvey Goranson

In 1984 Porsche celebrated its 3rd straight win with the 956. It was driven by Klaus Ludwig and Henri Pescarolo to cover 360 laps. This model the NewMan - Joest team entry was made by HPI Racing and has astounding engine detail for a 1:43 scale model. HPI also made team car No. 8, a DNF. HPI, sadly, is defunct.

The Porsche 956 was a Group C sports-prototype racing car designed by Norbert Singer and built by Porsche in 1982 for the FIA World Sportscar Championship. It was later upgraded to the 956B in 1984. In 1983, driven by Stefan Bellof, this car established a record that would stand for 35 years, lapping the famed 20.832 km (12.93 mi) Nürburgring Nordschleife in 6:11.13 during qualifying for the 1000 km Sports Car race. The record was finally surpassed by Timo Bernhard in a derestricted Porsche 919 Evo on 29 June 2018.





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