



# 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 – MARCH 2025

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I write my update for the month, our new HPDE chair and I are about to leave for a weekend at the Porsche Experience Center in Birmingham for the Porsche Masters Class. I am looking forward to more time behind the wheel at that beautiful track, and hopefully I will learn to be a better driver.

But you don't need to go to Alabama to drive, we live in the greatest location in the country for driving (biased opinion), and our [first driving tour of the year](#) is coming up on the 22nd. Get in touch with Jack if you haven't already signed up, it will be a good chance for those that have kept their cars out of the salt brine all winter to dust them off.

I also hope to see many of you at [our social on the 18th](#) and again at [Spring Thing](#) the first weekend of April. Tom and Kathy have done an amazing job organizing that event, and it is going to be great. I love this time of year looking ahead to spring. Take the chance to get out with friends and enjoy those cars and the camaraderie!

Safe Travels

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!](#)

- Mar 18 – [Monthly Social](#) at [Monkey Town Brewing Co.](#)
- Mar 22 – [Driving Tour](#) – Vonore and beyond!
- Apr 4-6 – [Spring Thing 2025](#) at The General Morgan
- Apr 06 – [Harper Auto Square's Cars & Coffee](#)
- Apr TBD – [Phase II Parade registration starts](#)
- Apr 19 – [Quarterly Board Meeting](#)
- Apr 27 – [AUTOCROSS!!](#)

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 Greeneville 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!

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

Hal W.	PCA Test Drive
Douglas & Jackie M.	2015 911 Carrera
Jeffery T.	1983 944 & 1976 914 2.0

Michael G.	2015 Cayman S
Geoffroy & Patricia V.	2025 Macan Turbo EV
Tom B.	2017 911 Carrera Cabriolet

Speaking of new members...

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

### PORSCHE PARADE 2025



Registration opened 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.

### Porsche Track Experience Master's Class

by Carl Justice

Last month, I put together a FAQ for anyone interested in or just getting started with HPDE. If you haven't seen it yet, check it out! ([Beginner's HPDE FAQ](#)) Before we dive into more advanced DE topics and tips, I have to share my recent adventure at the Porsche Track Experience (PTX) at Barber Motorsports Park, where I tackled the Master's Class alongside our fearless president!

If you're eager for track time but still hesitant about pushing your own car in HPDE, PTX is the perfect solution. What's better than stretching your car's legs on track? Burning the tires and brakes off someone else's—while getting pro-level coaching!

**What is PTX?** PTX offers everything from introductory track courses to advanced programs that qualify you for an SCCA racing license. The Master's Class follows a format similar to beginner courses but ditches the lead/follow structure—you're solo on track. If you're a novice, don't worry! You'll get a similar experience but with an instructor on track with you. As for the track, facilities, and hospitality? Pure Porsche perfection. From the Grand Bohemian Hotel to the catered meals, PTX delivers an experience that meets—and exceeds—Porscheophile expectations.

Read the [full review and commentary online](#) at our HPDE page. This experience was 100% worth it. My big question is... when's the next one?



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### HARPER RESTORATION 2025 KICKOFF

This was a first look at Harper Porsche's three entries into the 2025 Porsche Classic Restoration Challenge. There was food, drinks, and presentation of some of their Porsche Classics. Then Shannon unveiled one of this year's project, a green old school 911 in progress.



Many SMTPCA members and others attended the Harper Porsche Restoration Challenge 2025 Kickoff. Check out some more [pictures from that event](#).

### 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.

### Turbo S Cross Turismo by Hot Wheels

*By Harvey Goranson*

Mattel released a 1:43 replica of the Taycan Turbo S Cross Turismo late last year in black. A reasonable amount of detail for a diecast hanging on the pegs at Target selling for 25 bucks. I'm assuming this is a 2024 Taycan, since the headlights have a quad pattern that came out in that model year, but the wheels have been seen on earlier model years back to the Cross Turismo model's introduction in 2021.



### 2025 WERKS AND AMELIA CONCOURS

It's March and that means Amelia! A good contingent of Smoky Mountain members headed down to Florida for the 2025 Werks Reunion Amelia Island and Amelia Concours for some fun in the sun, great cars, and good times. We stayed at various places about the island, sampled lots of local seafood, and saw some other sights. Some generous members again hosted Shrimp Boil at their place!



Check out [more pictures from the event](#) (Thanks Bob!)



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**Concours • Autocross • Rallies • Golf • Driving Tours • Historics Display • More!**

## Join us for the 2025 Porsche Parade in Oklahoma City

Porsche Parade is PCA's crown jewel event. This week long gathering of 1,200+ Porsches and 2,000+ Porsche enthusiasts from all PCA Regions across the US and Canada enjoy many events and activities. This ultimate Porsche vacation includes competition, camaraderie, and, most of all, FUN for all ages.

This year at Porsche Parade, PCA has plans to celebrate the club's 70th anniversary, including a special PCA History Museum in the hospitality area.



**Phase 1 Registration is Now Open**



**PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA**

[www.porscheparade.org](http://www.porscheparade.org)



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## **PARTING SHOT – Porsche Tractors**



Ferdinand Porsche had always been interested in agricultural equipment, one of his first passions when Europe was still predominantly agricultural. He wanted to develop a machine capable of replacing horses and oxen: his first "tractor" in 1914 was an artillery tractor. In November 1937, the development of the "Volksschlepper" (people's tractor) was officially launched, with the first rolling copy debuting January 1939. Porsche had several imperatives: "The tractor must have a low price. Second, it should have a low maintenance cost. Third, it should have universal use. As well as being powerful, reliable and robust." (For a more detailed description, [please see this article](#))

The intervention of WWII delayed the commercial production of the Volksschlepper, and then Erwin Allgaier of the Allgaier Werke company became interested in the people's tractor project. In 1949, a common agreement released the Allgaier Porsche 17 with two cylinders and 18 hp under the name AP 17 (for Allgaier-Porsche). Sales were brisk and expansion ensued, and models follow one another: A111, A122, A133 and A144, and some other custom productions.

Allgaier decided to refocus on the manufacture of sheet metal parts and machine tools, so in 1956 Mannesmann bought the facilities and the Porsche license from Allgaier for 28 million marks. A new company, Porsche Diesel Motorenbau GmbH, was created, a 100% subsidiary of Mannesmann and without a capital link with Porsche.

As competition stiffened, especially from US marqueees, Mannesmann sold the production to Renault and Porsche-Diesel-Renault Vetriebs GmbH was created (owned by Renault) for the marketing of the last stocks produced up to 1963 and the maintenance of Porsche-Diesel tractors. In total, 130,000 tractors were produced between 1949 and 1963.



Fun is still to be had, as these Porsches are quite collectible. [One collection](#) boasts 35 Porsche and Allgaier Porsche-System tractors, all reportedly restored.

Porsche even included and "new" Mission E Tractor in their annual [April 1<sup>st</sup> "press release"](#). There is even a "sanctioned" [racing class for the Porsche Tractors](#), as the slowest, but one of the most popular races in Porsche motorsport history makes a comeback.

And lastly, [one of the best Porsche ads ever](#)... the Porsche 111 Diesel Cabriolet.



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



PORSCHE

Harper Porsche



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