



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 – April 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If driving activity is any indication, Spring is in full swing! Fourteen of us participated in an HPDE at Barber earlier this month, and I expect that number to keep increasing. We warned you that track driving is addictive! Last Sunday we [kicked off our autocross series](#) with a great turnout at Pellissippi State Community College in Hardin Valley. In Matt Fischer's absence, I devoured a cone and drug it through the full course! Someone has to do it (*thanks for taking one for the team – Ed.*). We all had a great time, and the best part is we had 5 first-timers come out and give it a go. I love seeing more and more members getting involved with the driving activities.

And by all accounts our biggest event of the year, Spring Thing '25, [was a smashing success](#)! Plans are already being made for next year, and the great volunteer community that is this club is at work on this and so much more for this year. [May's driving tour](#) is a destination tour, with a visit to the Borla facility as the prize at the end of a great drive. Don't forget about Platica, Harper Porsche's event on May 4th that will bring together some of the most amazing Porsches you will ever see. Then come to our [club social on May 20th at 35 North](#) and tell everyone what you have been doing with your car! See you then, I can't wait to hear the stories.

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](#)!

- May 4 – Harper's [Porsche Platica](#)
- May 9-10 – [Driving Tour](#) to Borla manufacturing facility
- May 20 – [Monthly Social, 35 North](#)
- June 8 – [AUTOCROSS!!](#)

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

NEW MEMBER ROUNDUP – WELCOME!

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

Quan & Kimberly P. 2011 911 GT3
Malcom S. 2012 Cayman R
Steve P. 2022 911 Turbo S
John B. 2024 718 Spyder RS

Speaking of new members...

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

SPRING THING 2025

IS A WRAP!!! April 4-6, 2025. We gathered back at The General Morgan in Greeneville for another rousing

weekend of Porsche Fun & Friends. As usual, there were social hours, a Concours, some Driving, a Banquet, and an Autocross. [Check out the pix online.](#)

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.

PHASE 2 Registration: May 7, 2025, events & tours, etc.

THE LANGUAGE OF SPEED: Listening to Your Porsche on Track

by Carl Justice, HPDE Chair

As inspired by dear friend John McDermott who shared his thoughts on the subject with a group of fellow track enthusiasts! Thanks, John!

As PCA drivers, we take pride in the precision of engineering, of driving, and of understanding our cars. But one of the most overlooked tools in the driver's toolkit isn't the steering wheel or pedals—it's your ears.

Porsches are incredibly communicative machines. From the song of a flat-six at full throttle to the subtle squeal of tires at the edge, your car is giving you real-time feedback that can sharpen your driving and protect your car.

Take brakes, for example. That light squeal entering Turn 1 at VIR? Could be glazing from light trail-brake pressure or a sign your pad compound isn't well-suited for the heat you're generating. A deeper groan coming into the Roller Coaster could mean your fluid's boiling—especially if you're still running OE fluid and pushing hard through long sessions.

At Barber, listen to the tires through the Museum complex. A progressive howl means you're dancing right at max grip. But sudden chirps or abrupt squeals in the transitions suggest you're overloading the tires or mistiming weight transfer. Hearing those cues gives you a chance to adjust mid-session and get ahead of tire wear or imbalance.

At Road Atlanta, the long right-hander at Turn 12 is a perfect spot to train your ear. A slight change in exhaust note at full throttle might reveal a brief traction loss or a fuel pickup issue—especially in older Caymans or if your tank is getting light. Even drivetrain hum or diff noise on throttle



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exit out of Turn 7 can hint at a developing mechanical concern.

Bottom line: driving your Porsche fast is more than just data and feel—it's about awareness. Listening is a skill. And whether you're in a GT4, a 997, or a classic air-cooled 911, your car wants to talk to you. The more fluent you are in its language, the faster, safer, and more connected you'll be on track.

TRACK RATS & PERFORMANCE EVENTS

Below is a tentative schedule of 2025 events some drivers will be attending.

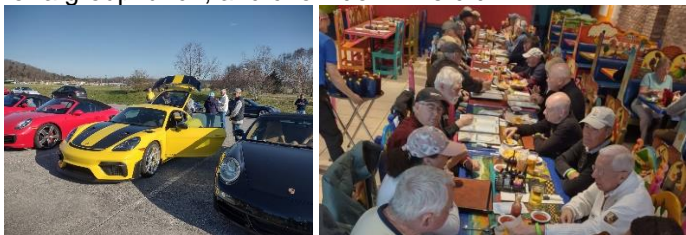
- [May 24/25 NCM](#) a larger group
- [September 12-14 Mid-Ohio](#) for a few folks
- [September 20/21 Road Atlanta](#)
- VIR is still TBD

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

Remember, smooth is fast, and shiny side up!

MARCH DRIVING TOUR

March 22 got off to an early and chilly start, with about 30 cars showing up to tour about Vonore and the surrounding countryside. Jack put together an interesting route with many roads new to most drivers, and the weather cooperated nicely. We ended at Cielito Lindo Mexican Grille for a group lunch, and chow down we did!



Check out [all the pix online](#).

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.

Hot Wheels 911 Keychain Clip

By Harvey Goranson

In March, Debi and I made my annual trek to Countryside, Illinois, for a couple of toy and model shows. No new 1:43-scale Porsches, but a friend gave me this Hot Wheels 911 keychain clip.

A lot of us have known each other for years, and we made a group visit to the Beller Museum, devoted to Model A Fords (though much of the collection was unrestored). We were treated to a ride in a Model A school bus, hot rodged with a Cadillac V8 engine and power windows.



PCAs 70th ANNIVERSARY

The Porsche Club of America (PCA) was founded in 1955 by Bill Sholar, a commercial artist in Washington, D.C., who met other Porsche owners and decided to form a club. The first meeting was held in February 1955, and the club officially became the "Porsche Club of America" on September 13, 1955 at their first meeting at Blackie's House of Beef in Washington, D.C.



On September 13th, all PCA Regions across US and Canada are encouraged to hold an anniversary event in their hometown. Schedule a concours, driving tour, cars & coffee, or any other PCA event and share it with the world on social media by using the hashtag #pca70.

HARPER PORSCHE ACQUIRES RICK HILL

Harper Porsche of Knoxville Acquires Rick Hill Porsche in Kingsport, TN. Read the [Press Release](#).



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RAFFLE OPEN NOW!



1ST GRAND PRIZE*
**2026 911
GT3**
+ \$35,000 CASH PRIZE



MEMBER ONLY RAFFLE

Prizes after first grand prize are based upon number of entries as outlined in OFFICIAL RAFFLE RULES
WINNER ANNOUNCED BY July 31, 2025

(All photos shown are for illustration purposes only. Options may vary.)

2ND+ GRAND PRIZE*
2026 911 CARRERA
+ \$35,000 CASH PRIZE



SPRING 2025 MEMBER ONLY RAFFLE: YOU COULD WIN A 2026 911 GT3!

Each fall and spring, PCA holds a raffle, in which you, the member, may purchase entries for a chance to win a brand-new Porsche.

For the Spring 2025 Member Only Raffle, the first grand prize is a 2026 911 GT3 plus a \$35,000 cash prize. Subsequent grand prizes are a 2026 911 Carrera plus a \$35,000 cash prize. All entries received by June 16, 2025, will be accepted into the raffle. Remember: More entries equal more grand prizes.

For more information: www.pca.org/news/spring-2025-raffle



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PARTING SHOT – SPRING THING 2025

Our annual signature event again met at The General Morgan in Greeneville for another rousing weekend of Porsche Fun & Friends. As usual, there were social hours, a Concours, some Driving, a Banquet, and an Autocross. Here is a sampling of the festivities, and you can [check out all the pix online](#).





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



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865-693-8911 | EurotechKnoxville.com | 7223 Oak Ridge Hwy

