



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 – November 2025

WHAT IS COMING UP?

As 2025 winds down, club events are limited. The 2026 calendar is filling up, so if you have ideas and are willing to help, [let us know!](#)

- December 11 – [Holiday Party](#) at Chesapeake's
 - December TBD – Driving Tour
- Keep an eye on our [calendar](#) for more!

NEW MEMBER ROUNDUP – WELCOME!

OCTOBER 2025 - Say "Hi!" to our new members!

Joseph & Gail H.	2022 Macan
Dave M.	2007 911 Targa 4S
Robert & Kristin A.	2016 911 Carrera Cabriolet
Michael & Pam R.	2011 Panamera Turbo
Ronald W.	2004 911 Carrera 4S Cabriolet
James H.	PCA's Test Drive program

Speaking of new members...

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

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

By Teresa Fischer

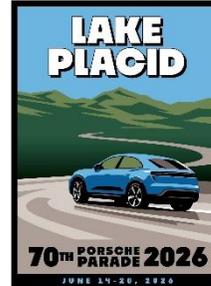
New PCA Member Onboarding: In August, PCA started a new member program by sending three welcome emails. Upon joining, a new member receives the first welcome email the following day, another email a week later, and the last email 2 weeks from the day of sign up. Each email has unique PCA content and was created to help engage and educate the new member with welcome videos, links to their region website, PCA activities, events, and membership benefits. The goal of this new program is to give new members a strong start to PCA membership and help encourage retention after their first year.

As part of the Smoky Mountain Region (SMT), new members and transfers to our region receive a regional welcome email with a synopsis of current activities and a link to our website. Please do check out the website at www.smt pca.org to stay in the know about region events.

HOLIDAY PARTY 2025

The 2025 Smoky Mountain Region PCA Holiday party will be held at [Chesapeake's Seafood House West](#) in West Knoxville on **Thursday, December 11th**. Chesapeake's is located at [9630 Parkside Drive](#). The social hour will begin at 6:00 pm with a cash bar and an assortment of appetizers. Buffet Dinner will be held at 7:00 pm and will be followed by a short program. The cost is \$65 per person. Please check out [all the details online](#), and register before December 5th, 2025.

PORSCHE PARADE 2026 & 2027



Time to start planning ahead: *Porsche Parade 2026 is in Lake Placid, New York, and Parade 2027 is in Boise, Idaho!*

TRACK & PERFORMANCE EVENTS

Porsche Club is not just about cars, but also the people. Over the past year, two of our region's club members have become certified HPDE instructors recognized by PCA National. Todd Sutton (our region President) was certified earlier this year. Carl Justice (our region DE chair) recently became an instructor November 14th after going through the instructor certification program at Virginia International Raceway. Congratulations to both Todd and Carl on this achievement! These two folks build upon our region's DE experience. We have numerous instructors who can help those looking to learn more about driving in a Driver's Education event and what's involved in building driving skills at the track.

As this track season is winding up, NEXT YEAR??? Stay tuned!! If you are interested in going, or have questions, please [contact our HPDE Chair](#).

Remember, smooth is fast, and shiny side up!

YOUR PORSCHE "AHA!" MOMENT

Our "Porsche AHA! Moment" has been a hit, with a small backlog of submittals already. If you have a story to share, and a picture or two, [we would love to hear from you!](#)

Check out this month's "AHA!" for one of our more recent transfers in the following pages.

PEACHSTATE RENNIFEST 2025

The word on the street is RennFest had many SMT members in attendance... And swept the podiums? If anyone has results and/or pix, [do share!!](#)



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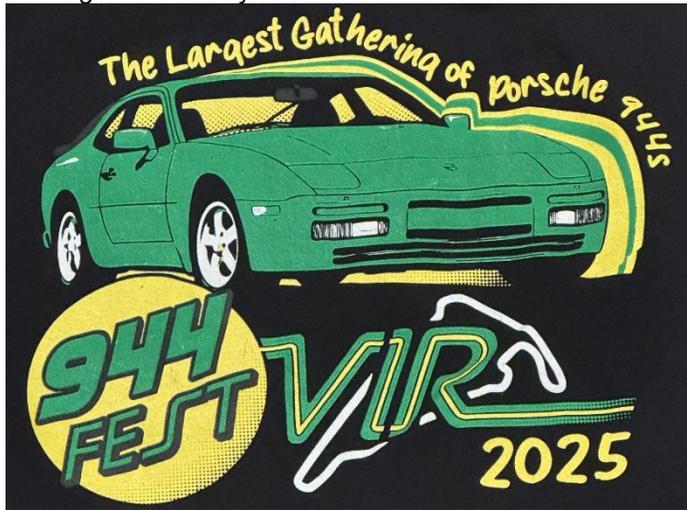
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944Fest 2025

By Steve Franklin

August 28-31 was the 25th year of 944Fest, the largest gathering of 944s. It was held at Virginia International Raceway this year. Activities included track time on VIR, car show, gimmick rally, awards banquet, and even an off roading track for Cayennes and Macans.



Smoky Mountain had 3 members attend. Tammy Kirby ('83 944), Phil Kirby ('90 944S2), and two grandsons, and Steve Franklin ('84 944). There were approximately 200 cars there. At the banquet Tammy took home the PCA award for her well preserved 944. Steve scored the highest mileage award (342,000). Next closest only had 277,000!



There were many interesting cars from beaters to concours winners, pink pig wraps, chalk painted with people encouraged to write on the car, LS engine swaps, safari style, all loved by their owners for different reasons.

October's Rally for the Lane...

By Harvey Goranson

...or: why I never want to drive a VW-powered 914 ever again! As usual this year, my daughter Kacyn drove over to Nashville for the 16th annual [Rally for the Lane](#) October 4th.

I reserved their 914 with VW power, my first drive in a mid-engined car. I had to acclimate to 5-speed after years with my 911's 6-speed, like the dog-leg-and-down 1st gear. The engine idled at 500 rpm, leading to a few stalls. Off we went and we soon found ourselves out in the country.



We came upon a very steep hill, lugged it to a stall, and couldn't restart without losing ground. The

road had a drop-off on one side with steep forest on the other, and the parking brake would not hold. So we were stuck until the help we called out for arrived, in the form of Jeff Lane in the Amphicar. We resumed probably dead last at this point and reached the picnic location near Asheville with no further incident. There, Jeff offered rides in the Amphicar in the Cumberland River, life preserver required!



Leaving the park we heard a 'pop', but didn't see anything that had fallen off the car, so we continued. We called the help line

again but they said press on, it'll be ok. We were making good headway until the battery gave out in Nashville; passing Nashville Metro cops manually pushed the car into the parking lot of a barbeque joint. The rescue truck with Audi on trailer pulled in and did a quick battery swap and we were on our way again, still with the alternator light on - belt replacement could wait.

With only a few miles to go, we went over some railroad tracks on Lebanon Road and up popped the engine lid. This blocked the rearview mirror but by that time we were through with lane changes with only right turns ahead. After arrival, the Lane provided beverages and dinner.

Next year I may see if there's an automatic on the list!



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Porsche Design Unveils the Chronograph 1 – PCA Member Edition

Porsche Design honors the 70th anniversary of the Porsche Club of America with a new edition of the Chronograph 1. Exclusively made for a special community, PCA members now have the opportunity to customize Porsche Design's most iconic timepiece that was originally designed by F. A. Porsche in 1972.

Creating a special sense of community amongst members, this new timepiece features the PCA logo and "PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA" lettering, and optionally a personalized club region name stated on the case back. The made-to-order watch will not only come with a titanium bracelet, but also two sportive textile straps in vibrant Club Blau, one featuring the PCA logo and the other the PCA 70Y anniversary logo.

Visit: pca.org/news/porsche-design-chronograph-1-pca-member-edition



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That Porsche “Aha!” Moment

By Mark Demange

As a lifelong owner of numerous BMWs, I dipped into the Porsche domain in part because I was regularly getting my butt kicked by them at track events. Getting passed by them while in my Ms was very common.

The tipping point for me was a close call at Road Atlanta. Coming down the back straight into 10 my mirrors were clear. As I launched into space under the bridge toward 11 I checked the mirror again and there was a Porsche right on me! Trust me when I say that is not the place to lose focus. I ended up in the grass which was luckily dry and I avoided the wall at 12.

I knew at that point a transition to a Porsche was in my future. M2 exit stage left...981 GT4 enter stage right.



(Editor's note: Mark is being a little shy about the succession of Porsches he has had since The Moment. His latest [second from left below] has helped him fit in just fine on our East Tennessee roads as well as the track!)





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



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