



# 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 – May 2026

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone is having a great spring and is out enjoying their cars. A group of us traveled to Road Atlanta and had a fantastic time on the track at an event that combined PCA club racing with HPDE. It was a great experience both to drive on a legendary track and see some wheel-to-wheel Porsche racing on the same track. Another batch also went to NCM for another HPDE, thus missing out on another great Driving Tour in the Loudon area. PCA definitely has something for everyone!

This month I would like to focus on Harper Porsche. Coming off an amazing Platica event, I am impressed with how much engagement they are providing to the local Porsche community outside of their traditional role as a dealer and service provider. The number of events they are hosting and sponsoring and the amount of involvement they are offering to the Porsche community in East Tennessee is outstanding, and I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank them for that. We are fortunate to live in an area with the best roads in the world and the support of an outstanding dealership to supplement what we do as a club.

Hope to see you all out on the roads and tracks soon!  
- Todd

### WHAT IS COMING UP?

The 2026 calendar is filling up, so if you have ideas and are willing to help, [let us know!](#)

- May 24 – [Autocross](#)
- June 14 – [Autocross](#)
- June 16 – Monthly Social, Cazy's Corner Grille
- June 14-20 – [Porsche Parade 2026](#), Lake Placid, NY
- July 14 – Monthly Social, Firebird's Knoxville  
Keep an eye on our [2026 calendar for](#) more!

### NEW MEMBER ROUNDUP – WELCOME!

**April 2026 - Say "Hi!" to our new members!**

- Brad & Missy D. 2021 718 Cayman GT4
- Henry H. 1984 911 Carrera
- Paul & Cindy M. 2002 Boxster S
- James C. 1985 911 Carrera
- William P. 2025 718 Cayman GTS 4.0
- Charles K. 2000 Boxster
- Joyce O. 2004 Boxster

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

### SMTPCA AUTOCROSS 2026

Our next open Autocross event is scheduled for May 24th, so come on out and bring a friend to drive! Here are all [the 2026 dates:](#)

- 3/22/2026 4/25/2026 (Spring Thing)
- 5/24/2026 6/14/2026
- 9/13/2026 10/18/2026 11/8/2026

Hope to see everyone at each of these.....bring a friend!

### SPRING THING 2026

The 2026 Spring Thing (our 50th Annual!) was held April 23-26 this year at the [MeadowView Conference Resort Center](#) in [Kingsport TN](#). Weather was agreeable, facility was great, we had great participation, and good times were had by all! Many thanks to all that made it happen, especially to Phil & Tammy (with Tom and Kathy handing off & helping) for coordinating this show, and Congratulations for pulling it off so well. And of course, thanks to all that pitched in to volunteer where needed and when needed. As they say, "It's not just the cars...".



We are working the 2027 dates, so keep your spring calendars open and plan to be there! [See our website](#) for all the good times!

### NEW MEMBER INTRO – A BACKLOG!

Since Mark Demange (our Membership Chair) started soliciting "self-intros" from new members, we have been getting inundated! Here's a few from the pile, and we'll do some more next month.

#### Michael & Patricia Swenor

Michael and Patricia are both Porsche owners and enthusiasts. Here's a picture of her 2014 Cayman.





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In the past, Michael owned a 1978 911 Targa, a 1980 911 Weissach, 1983 911 Coupe, and currently drives a 2021 Macan S. Patty bought her first Porsche in 1997 and has only driven Porsches since, including a 1997 911, 2002 911, 2014 Cayman, and a 2025 E-Macan. She has a new 911 on order. They look forward to joining and meeting others in the Smoky Mountain Region.

### Crispin & Vanessa Schnur

Crispin & Vanessa live in Knoxville and drive a 997 Targa with an LS3 swap in it and used to have a 996 Turbo. Crispin loves driving events and looks forward to doing quite a few of them with the club. He is looking forward to meeting members and happy to be back in another Porsche.

### Billy Wright

Billy bought his first Porsche, a 2002 986 5 speed, for his 55th birthday. Fast forward to 2025 and he upgraded to a 2015 981 S, silver with red interior. Retired from UPS in 2024! Living the dream!

### William Powell

I fell in love with the 1984 Guards Red 944 being raffled at the Calgary Stampede that year. Sadly, I did not win (though I'm not sure that car would have been the best thing for 17-year-old me!), but last spring when I learned that Porsche was discontinuing the 718, I finally ordered a 718 GTS with a stick. And I'm in love. I also have a 2026 Macan GTS, because it's the end of the road for that gas model too. And it's awesome.

I'm looking forward to lots of driving events. I've lived in Knoxville since 2007 but have yet to explore all the driving opportunities. I'm excited about that! And I'm looking forward to meeting all of you fine people!

**WELCOME ABOARD TO ALL!!!**

### TRACK & PERFORMANCE EVENTS

We are already into another exciting season: Here are upcoming track events being attended by our crew.

- Mid-Ohio June 27-28, MORPCA
- Mid-Ohio, July 17-19, Metro NY PCA
- Mid-Ohio, September 11-13, Allegheny PCA
- VIR, October 23-25, MORPCA

Registration for these events can be found on <http://www.clubregistration.net>.

After April's Road Atlanta HPDE, another batch went to NCM in Bowling Green and more fun times were had!



Please check out the [HPDE content on the region website](#) or reach out to Carl Justice.

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

### DEALER CORNER

The 2026 installment of Porsche Platica on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 was very successful, with great cars and good weather. The next Harper event will be the July Cars & Coffee.

### 2004 PORSCHE LE MANS by Ebbro

*By Harvey Goranson*

Many 911-based Porsche racing cars have competed at the 24 hours of Le Mans over the decades, and all that showed up in 2004 were GT3-RSRs or GT3-RS models. This particular car, entered by the Japanese ChoroQ racing team, placed 12th overall and 2nd in the GT class. This diecast model was made around 2005 by the Japanese Ebbro model company, who were also big sponsors of the car. Certainly not the only time a racing car had a toy or model car company involved in a team entry.



### MAY 2026 DRIVING TOUR

Our [May Tour: Monkeys, Goodfellas, & Fireflies](#) was Saturday, May 16, 2026, ending in Loudon with dining options galore. Weather was nice, we had a good group of drivers and navigators, and a great route that featured a great mix of long sweeping curves and beautiful "tree tunnels". Many thanks to Mark and The Gang for setting up and executing another great drive. Next one in July is still TBD so keep your eyes peeled for the announcement!



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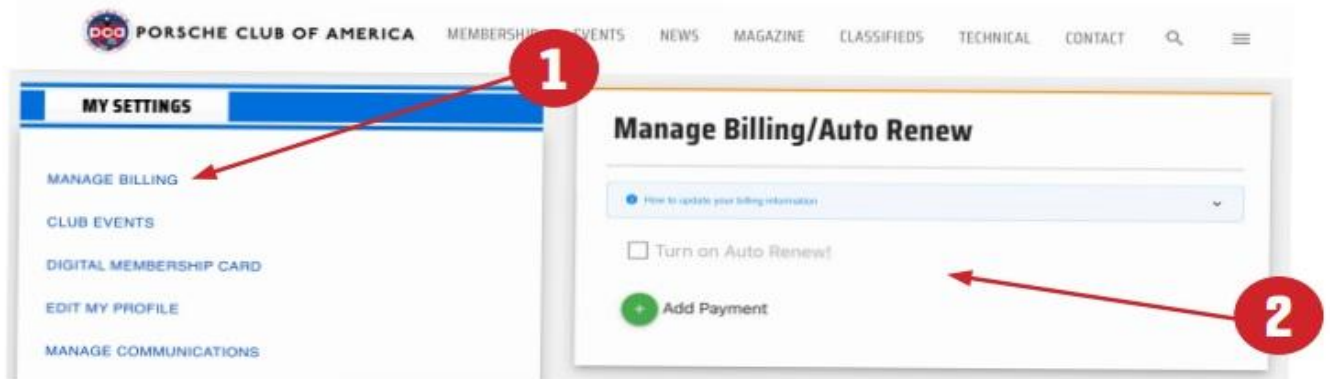
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**PARTING SHOT – TIRED OF REMEMBERING TO RENEW? Try “AUTORENEW!!!”**

Go have fun & don't worry about your PCA Membership!

## New Auto Renewal features



**Now you can enjoy a simpler, more convenient way to manage your membership:**

- ✓ Turn on automatic renewal, just like many of your other subscriptions.
- ✓ Stay active without worrying about missing your renewal date.
- ✓ Avoid annual renewal letters and reminder emails.
- ✓ Update your billing information anytime during your membership term.

When you enroll in auto renewal, your membership will automatically renew during your renewal window using the billing information you have securely stored on file. You can update or remove your payment information at any time. Auto renewal makes it easy to keep your membership active without extra reminders or paperwork.

▶ Go to <https://members.pca.org/member/manage-billing> and click on “Manage Billing” as seen above.





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## 2026 Porsche Sprint Trophy Porsche Club of America by Yokohama Calendar

Jan. 29 – Feb. 1: Sebring  
June 5 – 6: Lime Rock Park  
July 10 – 12: Watkins Glen  
Sept. 5 – 7: Road America

## PCA Club Racing New One-Make Racing Series

Porsche Sprint Trophy PCA is PCA Club Racing's newest class, offering entry-level and experienced racers the chance to compete as a destination series or as a step in the North American Porsche Motorsport Pyramid. The 2026 calendar will integrate into established PCA Club Racing events at Sebring International Raceway, Lime Rock Park, Watkins Glen International, and Road America.

Watch Races Live: <https://pcaclubracing.org/livestream/>





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# MEMBER ONLY RAFFLE

## 1ST GRAND PRIZE: 2026 PCA 70th Anniversary CLUB COUPE

**+\$60,000 CASH PRIZE**



**2ND GRAND PRIZE: 2026**

## 911 CARRERA

**+\$40,000 CASH PRIZE**



Scan code or  
see website  
for more details  
and official rules:  
[www.pca.org](http://www.pca.org)

**ENTRY DEADLINE:** June 1, 2026  
**WINNER ANNOUNCED:** July 31, 2026  
**Multiple winners anticipated**

Additional prizes after first grand prize  
are based upon number of entries  
as outlined in OFFICIAL RAFFLE RULES



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AS ALWAYS... Remember our Sponsors!



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