

# Escape Velocity



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PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

2023/4



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**PORSCHE**



# President's Column

"It's Not Just the Cars, it's the People"

The PCA slogan rings so true for me. As 2023 comes to an end, so does my time as President of the Space Coast Region. It's been a fantastic journey, and I am thankful to have met so many wonderful people along the way! Our Regions' leadership team, members and sponsors are some of the best in all of PCA. It's the people who make this club so great and what wonderful adventures we have had this year!

Our Year in Review includes 36 Kaffeeklatches, 4 Museum Tours (Including driving to Brumos), a dinner under the Space Shuttle Atlantis, and multiple local Drive & Dines and drives to interesting places. We hosted the Sunrise to Sunset Gimmick Rally (and retained the Sunchaser Trophy) and the Porsche vs Corvette Autocross Challenge (kept the championship 5 times in a row). Our members have brought home hardware in Concours events across the region and we held our biggest ever Oktoberfest Concours and BBQ. We now have more members than ever participating in HPDE events at the track and a few members graduating to the race circuit and winning! We collected food, toys and raised money for worthy causes. Plus, our Space Coast Region is growing; we are now just under 1200 primary members! This is something to celebrate! As my last act as President, I am nominating our Space Coast Region for Region of the Year. I think we have a good shot!

We have a great group supporting the efforts of our club. Our sponsors at Porsche Melbourne and the American Muscle Car Museum are invaluable and the advertisers we have in **Escape Velocity** help decrease the cost of our magazine. A special thank you to Sue Kee, editor of **EV** (for almost a decade) for all her hard work to produce our fabulous magazine! Our chairs and leadership team volunteer hundreds of hours to make this club run smoothly to keep activities fun and safe. It is appreciated!

I believe that our Space Coast Region is the BEST in all of PCA. Many on the leadership team are continuing in their roles or shifting responsibilities. If you are interested in becoming more involved and/or want to plan an event, please let Steve know. Finally, a big shout out to everyone in the club – thanks for joining PCA and participating (even if it is just reading **EV**). I hope to meet you in the coming year!

As I pass the torch to Steve Tarr, rest assured this club is in good hands. He has the most interesting and unique ideas for activities and comes in with fresh ideas and unmatched enthusiasm for PCA.

Happy holidays to all of you and your families! Stay safe and I hope to see you at an upcoming event. Now, while the rest of the country has parked their cars for the winter, be thankful for where we live, and get out drive those cars!

## Robin Hoffman

President Space Coast PCA

**On the Cover:** Esteban Valentin's chalk 2018 GT3. Photo by Ray Baldino.

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**Space Coast PCA Hoedown**  
**March 8-10, 2024**

Please join us at the Westgate River Ranch for a fun filled Rodeo weekend

**Rodeo-Hayride-Dinners-Drives-Campfires**

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## From the Editor

Well, another year is over. Out with the old and in with the new! 2024 promises to be a good year already with plenty of things already in the planning stages. Welcome to Steve Tarr as our new President. He's already been starting the year with a bang after planning the fun trip to St. Augustine to view the lights of the City. Even with the rain, it was a special event. This year we have two Vice Presidents to share in the planning for the Club. We are so lucky to have people willing to step up and be a part of our Space Coast Club.

Sadly, this will be my last issue as your editor of **Escape Velocity**. I've had the privilege to be your editor for just about 10 years now. It's truly been a labor of love for me. I remember when Robin Hoffman announced to the Club that I would be your new Editor many years ago after I "thought" I only volunteered to help. I was new to the Club and didn't know very many people. She assured me not to worry, I would be meeting lots of wonderful people. She was right! Robin and I were Editor and Assistant Editor for a while, then she turned me loose. She's never not been there in all the years I have been editor to lend a hand or help me out. I'll never not be grateful for that. Let's not forget she's quite an accomplished photographer, along with her dedication to our Club.

I have had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful Space Coast Members whom I can gladly call friends. I have a lot of people to thank. Thank you so much to all our advertisers who have remained to support the Club and all the fantastic people who have contributed to writing stories about our events or taking pictures. I know I've had to count on so many people to help me out. It truly does take a village to get things done sometimes. I can't thank you enough for that support.

It's a new year and new people in place, with lots of new and exciting changes and ideas. I know you'll all be very pleased with 2024, and I hope you enjoy every event and experience. I'm not going anywhere, I'll still be around and enjoying the events right along with you all. I might even be one of the writers instead of the editor!

Best of 2024 to everyone and thank you all for the great opportunity you've given me to support our Space Coast Porsche Club. It's going to be a great year!!

*Sue Kee*



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# Membership Corner

by Joe Costa

Hello All Members. Please help me welcome all our new members and members who have transferred to Space Coast Porsche Club. Right now we have 1173 primary members and 524 affiliate members and one honorary/lifetime member for a total of 1698 members.

I invite all members to please try to make one of our Kaffeeklatches (Cars & Coffee). There is no better way than to meet and greet fun like-minded Porsche folks. Be careful because you might find you'll want to attend many of our great events. All our events are listed on our website <https://spaccoastpca.org/calendar> and on our Space Coast PCA FaceBook page.

Find one or more of the Kaffeeklatches you would like to attend and we'll see you there.

**North Location:** Third Sunday of the month from 9 am to 11 am. **Location TBD, stay tuned!** **Central Location:** First Saturday of the month from 9 am to 11 am. Panera Bread, 4100 N. Wickham Road, Melbourne, FL. **South Location:** Second Sunday of the month from 9 am to 11 am Panera Bread, 2001 Indian River Blvd, Vero Beach, FL.

If you have a family member under 17 you can sign them up as Junior members. They'll be thrilled when they get their Junior packages. This is a family club and it's a great way to spend quality time with your family and friends. You might even find something you'd like to help out and volunteer for.

## Welcome to our New Members!

### September 2023

Greg Walden – 1978 928  
George Palmer – 2006 Cayman S  
Alan Marquez – 1974 914 2.0  
Daniel Pierce – 1971 911T  
John Sjolander – 2017 911 Carrera S  
Agustin Canamero – 2015 Cayman  
Elmer Ramos – 2018 911 GT3  
Esteban Valentin – 2018 911 GT3  
Rafael Aponte – 2017 911 Carrera

#### Transfers In:

Don Dishman – 2002 911 Carrera,  
transferred from Carolinas

### October 2023

Fabrizio Pacheco Velloni – 2024 718 Cayman S  
Andrew Falendysz – 2011 Cayman  
Karl Bruschayt – 2017 Cayenne  
Penelope Saridakis – 2024 Cayenne Coupe  
Alexander Mitz – 2022 Macan  
Jeanne McKegg – 2023 Cayenne  
Mahkameh Mabry – 2024 Cayenne

John Holcomb – 2020 911 Carrera S  
Christine Handy – 2024 Cayenne  
Donald Hysan – 2023 911 Carrera GTS Cabriolet  
Dan Jingle – 2014 Cayman S  
John Corcia – 1971 911E  
Tom Tresohlavy – 2008 Cayman S  
Robin Turinetti – 2019 718 Cayman GTS  
Rickey Jones – 2008 Cayman S  
Peter Fuller – 2015 Cayman  
Carson Hodges – 1996 911 Carrera Cabriolet  
Melissa Flammio Clark – 2024 Cayenne  
Michael Scenti – 1986 928S  
Paul Varchetti – 2023 Panamera  
Anne Wagner – 2024 Cayenne S  
Hussien Ballout – 2024 Cayenne Coupe  
Richard Bost – 2023 718 Cayman  
William Brognano – 2024 Cayenne  
Lisa Callinan – 2022 Cayenne  
Richard Coston – 2023 Cayenne Platinum Edition  
Douglas Dyer – 2024 Taycan GTS  
Barbara Glick – 2023 Macan S  
William Hamel – 2024 Macan T

Lauren Loftis – 2024 718 Boxster  
Keith Morgan – 2024 Macan S  
Mahboob Morshed – 2024 Macan  
Iyad Muhanna – 2023 Macan  
Kathleen Rose – 2023 Macan  
Sarah Rothman – 2023 Cayenne  
Steven Duschl – 2009 Cayman S  
Nicholas Chan – 2023 Taycan GTS

#### Transfers In:

John Buckley – 2024 718 Boxster GTS,  
transferred from the Northeast  
Ernest Dichele – 2017 718 Boxster,  
transferred from Connecticut  
Steven Rich – 2000 911 Carrera,  
transferred from Jersey Shore  
Thomas Tresohlavy – 2008 Cayman S,  
transferred from Niagra

### November 2023

Michael Mitchell – 2015 911 Carrera  
Kevin Carroll – 2024 Macan GTS  
Daniel Carter – 2023 Cayenne  
Michael Morgan – 2024 Macan S  
John Caracappa – 2024 911 Carrera T  
Sherlyn Celone – 2024 Cayenne  
Alexis Halle – 2019 Macan  
Kristin Kauffmann – 2024 718 Boxster  
Thomas Kell – 2024 Taycan 4S  
Kiyana Durham – 2024 Macan S  
Robert Marsala – 2008 911 Carrera  
Dakota Massey – 2019 718 Cayman  
Janki Mehta – 2024 Panamera GTS  
Nathan Buckland – 2018 Macan Turbo

#### Transfers In:

Daniel Adams – 2007 Cayman S,  
transferred from Florida Crown  
Glenn Cormales – 1975 911,  
transferred from San Diego  
William Denninger – 2002 911 Carrera,  
transferred from Connecticut Valley

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# Keeping the Pedal to the Metal

## A Snapshot of What's Happening in the Space Coast Region PCA



**Dogs For Life**  
Training Service Dogs  
For Veterans

### 2024 Charity Calendar

This year's Charity Calendar, Porsches and Paws, was in support of Dogs for Life, Inc. a non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of life for Veterans and other individuals in need through training, hearing & service dogs, providing therapy dogs for first responders and school resource programs. The Event was a big success and we have raised \$3000 to date.

There are still plenty of calendars to purchase for the Charity, and you can contact Robin Hoffman at (321) 543-9205 or [robinhoffman@hotmail.com](mailto:robinhoffman@hotmail.com).

### KaffeeKlatch (Cars and Coffee)

We continue to have 3 informal get-togethers each month 9 am to 11 am to enjoy breakfast, coffee and our biggest passion – Porsches! Please join us at any or all the Kaffeeklatches.

One in New Smyrna Beach, Melbourne and Vero Beach  
Come out to one or all – it's always a good time!

*No pre-registration needed, just show up.*

**First Saturday of the month** – Mid-Region KK at Panera, 4100 N. Wickham Road, Melbourne, 9 am

**Second Sunday of the month** – South KK at Panera, 2001 Indian River Blvd, Vero Beach, 9 am

**Third Sunday of the month** – North KK, new location coming soon!

### Autocross in Spring 2024

**January 13 – February 17 – March 30**

Come on out to the Autocross at the American Muscle Car Museum. It's so much fun to drive and spectators are welcome! The AMCM course is a mix of roads, a drag strip and a skid pad. This makes it new driver friendly, and we have loaner helmets and instructors for first time autocrossers. For the experienced autocrosser, runs are long at 60 secs and we normally have 5 runs. Limited to 48 entries so register on [Clubregistration.net](http://Clubregistration.net) soon!

### All Members Meeting!

**February 15th, Porsche Melbourne, 6 pm**

Be sure to put the ALL Members Meeting on your calendar. It's a great opportunity to know the Club's plans for the year and give you a chance to make any suggestions. Porsche Melbourne has graciously offered to host this event and refreshments will be served.

### Ice Cream Social at the AMCM for Charity

**March 30th, Noon – 2 pm (after the AX)**

The folks at the American Muscle Car Museum are inviting the Space Coast PCA to come tour the INSIDE of the Museum. The collection is amazing and not to be missed! \$50 entry to see the collection goes 100% to Charity.

### PCA Juniors

**It's not just the cars... and now it's not just the grown-ups!**

With our new PCA Juniors program, PCA is about the kids too! The PCA Juniors program has been created so kids can enjoy PCA events, learn about Porsches and build the enthusiasm that runs through all of the Porsche Club of America.

PCA Juniors is a program for Porsche enthusiasts under age 18. Participants must be registered by an active PCA member. If you have grandchildren or nieces or nephews you can sign them up at no cost. They will receive a PCA Juniors ID Badge.

Join here at <https://www.pca.org/pca-juniors>.

### Be Sure To Save These Special Dates

January 13 – Zotz HPDE Tech Session 9 am

January 26 – Rallye Ormond Loop Drive ending at the Art of Speed at Daytona One

February 4 – Porsche & Chanel Women's Event

February 9 and 10 – Clydesdales Equestrian Event at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala

February 11 – Get in the Groove Slot Car Event

February 17 – Porsches & Polo @ Windsor Club, Vero Beach, SPACE LIMITED!

March 8 to 10 – Rodeo Weekend @ River Ranch – Special Event  
Complete information about each event can be found on our Space Coast PCA Website and Space Coast Facebook.

<https://spacecoastpca.org/calendar>

Register for these Special Events and more on [Clubregistration.net](http://Clubregistration.net).



# Elliott and Navy SEAL Museum Tours

Article by Rick Rousseau  
Photos by Robin Hoffman

I love the opportunities the Space Coast PCA presents to its members to explore the many attractions and sights there are to see here in Florida. Back in September, one such opportunity was a trip down south to the Elliott Museum in Stuart followed by a visit to the National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce. In-between was a lunch stop with a preselected menu that ensured quick service.

Having never been to either of these museums, it was a great opportunity. This time, the trip down was not done as a group drive. There were over 40 people registered and we were given an arrival time. We all made our way down on our own. This worked well and we still encountered small batches of Porsches on the trip down.



Fantastic turnout

I learned so much at the Elliott Museum. We forget how unpopulated Florida was before the Second World War. Stuart was just a small town, but they did have an infamous family living there, the Ashleys. John Ashley was an American outlaw, bank robber, bootlegger, and occasional pirate active in southern Florida during the 1910s and 1920s.

Between 1915 and 1924, the self-styled “King of the Everglades” or “Swamp Bandit” operated from various hideouts in the Florida Everglades. His gang robbed nearly \$1 million from at least 40 banks while at the same time hijacking numerous shipments of illegal whiskey being smuggled into the state from the Bahamas. He was called the greatest threat to the state since the Seminole Wars. His near 13-year feud with Palm Beach County Sheriff George B. Baker ended in the death of Ashley and his three lieutenants in 1924.

The museum is named after Stuart, Florida seasonal resident Harmon Elliott, son of prolific inventor Sterling Elliott, who made a mark on the area. To celebrate his father’s work and bring an educational and cultural resource to the region, Harmon provided the principal funds



1965 365-C Coupe

for the original Elliott Museum. In this tribute to his inventive spirit, visitors can learn about how Sterling Elliott was a problem-solving inventor, risk taker, politician, publisher, and social activist. Many of his inventions are on display at the museum.

Of special interest to many of the PCA attendees was the Wheels of Change exhibit. This permanent display allows visitors to learn about the development of commercial and personal transportation and how it had an impact on people’s lives and America’s culture in a dramatic fashion. These are “everyman” vehicles, once owned and cherished by small business owners and municipalities. There were some very unique vehicles including a 1965 Porsche 356-C Coupe, a 1914 Detroit Electric, and one of my favorites, a 1941 Lincoln Continental Cabriolet.

After lunch, we headed a few miles north to the National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum. One of the interesting things about this museum is that the displays include genuine artifacts, not recreations. If you see a boat, helicopter or gun, it’s the real deal that did what they are talking about.



Navy SEAL Museum



Mark V Special Operations Craft

I wondered why the museum was in Ft. Pierce. As it turns out, in early 1943, the Navy established the U. S. Naval Amphibious Training Base (USNATB), Fort Pierce, Florida. One type of training done at the site was for Naval Combat Demolition Units (NCDUs), the forerunners of the Underwater Demolition Teams (UDTs). These units were the predecessors of the SEAL teams.

The museum has displays both inside and outside on the grounds. The facility is beautiful and a place of reflection on the service and sacrifice of the elite warriors on the Navy SEAL teams and their predecessors. The displays are set up in a way to walk you through the history and evolution of the seal teams from WWII on to today. It’s a must see.

# Distillery Tour and Lunch at Fishlips

Article by Steve "Wojo" Wojcicki  
Photos by Robin Hoffman

On Saturday morning, October 14, approximately 20 enterprising PCA Space Coast members showed up at the Oceanside Distillery in Cape Canaveral. We were greeted by the owner, Ron Folino who provided an excellent and educational tour of his local distillery. He covered all the aspects of the fermentation and distillation processes for bourbon, rum and vodka. There is a lot of chemistry involved which leads to some very tasty spirits. Ron also showed us his storage area where many barrels of bourbon are quietly aging. The alcohol remains in these oak-charred barrels for a minimum of two years; the alcohol slowly absorbs unique aspects from these barrels creating flavor rich whiskeys over time.



In the barrel room

Upon completion of the tour, Ron led us to his tasting room. We enjoyed samples of a variety of bourbons (rye and double-oaked) along with samples of an assortment of rum. I'm pretty sure the coconut rum was the favorite. We left the tasting room very satisfied; some members purchased their favorite liquor to be enjoyed later at home.



Cheers!

After thanking Ron for his tour, the group headed to Fishlips at Port Canaveral for lunch. They did not disappoint. We sat outside on their upper deck and enjoyed excellent views, great food and friendship. All in all, it was a great way to spend a Saturday morning. Thanks to everyone who participated.

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# Rennsport Reunion 7

## An Awesome Porsche Heaven

Article and photos by Frank Watkins

In early Feb 2023 I got a call from Kevin, my oldest son who lives in CA, inviting me to the Porsche Rennsport Reunion, an event to be held at the WeatherTech Laguna Seca Raceway from 28 Sep to 1 Oct. He also indicated that I could drive his Boxster S during the PCA Parade Laps on 28 Sep. So, I immediately said yes as fast as my voice would allow!

Rennsport was an awesome experience that celebrated the “Icons of Porsche” during the 75th anniversary year of Porsche sports cars. There were several factors that made this event very special and “iconic” – the location/raceway, the people and, of course, the huge number of Porsche cars including the historic cars, the race cars and the new 911 S/T and 911 Speedster models. Also, there were exciting new Porsche concept models such as the Vision 357 Speedster, the 718 Cayman GT4 e-Performance car, and the Mission X car which served to inspire us as we look to the future.

Our family had lived in CA for some 25 years, and during this time I was a member of PCA Central Coast Region. We attended several Historic Automobile Races at Laguna Seca with Club members including the 1982 races where Porsche was the marquee car for these races. Dr Wolfgang Porsche and his wife lead the parade laps in the most significant Porsche of them all, his father’s very first production car, number 001. At the time I had never seen so many 356’s and 911’s in one place. So, getting to see more Porsches at the Laguna Seca Raceway was like coming home to old friends, but on steroids!

Rennsport is one of the best and most popular events held in the US. Each day crowds of around 91,000 attended. For the first time in Rennsport history, tickets to the weekend events were sold out! There

were some 600 volunteers supporting these huge Porsche loving crowds. We met some folks from England indicating the worldwide appeal of this event and the love affair with Porsche cars!

Legendary Porsche drivers Alwin Springer and Patrick Long served as the Grand Marshals. Besides these two, there were some 45 other iconic drivers including Dick Barbour, Derek Bell, Hurley Haywood, David Hobbs, Jochen Mass, Brian Redman and Danny Sullivan to list some of the more familiar ones. However, the most unique Porsche personality we encountered was a “Rip Van Winkle” looking character named Magnus Walker where we were able to join Magnus for a picture. Having been fascinated with Porsche since childhood, Walker started collecting and customizing vintage 911 Porsches. He became one of the world’s most visible faces of the Porsche and car collecting scene. He has been featured in a multitude of media, such as The Joe Rogan Experience (2015), and Jay Leno’s Garage (2017), and the 2015 video game Need for Speed.



Hangin' with Magnus Walker



Rennsport Reunion 7

A key attraction at Rennsport was the racing competition between the legendary Porsche race cars. There were some 245 race car entries, and the racing competition involved nine groups of cars representing the 75 years of Porsche motorsport development. The Gmund Cup group celebrated the foundation years of Porsche race cars based on the 356. There were 40 entries including 356s, Speedsters, Roadsters, two Spyderys, and a couple of other unique models. The age of these cars made me feel right at home! The second group involved the latest Porsche 911 GT3, type 992 race cars, and for the first time in its history, Porsche Rennsport Reunion hosted a weekend of racing for a current national championship – the Porsche Deluxe Carrera Cup North America. There were 40 entries in this group with three driver classes: Pro, Pro AM and AM. Since all the race cars/tires were identical, this group competition put a premium on driver skills. It was most exhilarating to be able to stand next to the raceway fence with only two rows of tires separating us from the raceway as these latest examples of Porsche perfection roared by!

There was one other spot that drew crowds, and that was the famous Laguna Seca “Corkscrew” curve. Adding to this spot’s appeal was the Biergarten that was located there. We took a shuttle up the hill to this location, got our beers and watched as the latest Porsche cars took several laps around the track including the 963, the 919 EVO, the 911 R Rennsport, and the GT4 e-Performance car. With a beer in hand and these Porsches swiftly navigating the corkscrew, it does not get ANY BETTER than this!

# The Morse Museum of American Art

Article and photos by Jay McGrath and Robert Kantor

On November 18th 38 fearless Space Coast Porsche enthusiasts trekked to Winter Park to visit the Morse Museum. We all met at St. Margaret Mary R.C. Church grounds which were gracious enough to allow us to park on their grounds which is directly across the street from the Morse Museum.



Upon entering the museum we were greeted by two docents and in my group we were matched up with Phyllis Levine. Phyllis is a 4' 11" senior with a powerhouse of energy not to mention that she must have been an actress in Shakespeare as she was very dramatic in her explanation of all of the Louis Comfort Tiffany art. The Morse Museum is internationally known for its collection of works by Tiffany (1848 – 1933) and it has the most comprehensive and most interesting collection of Tiffany anywhere. The scope of this collection extends from Tiffany leaded glass lamps made by the thousands to unique church windows. What I found interesting was Tiffany not only made exquisite glass, but was also a painter, sculptor, made pottery and so much more.

I was mesmerized by the different textures of glass that Tiffany perfected and how experimenting with different minerals gave a kaleidoscope of different colors, depth, and transparency. The talent was truly evident in the majestic windows for churches and of the very wealthy homes of the times. I cannot in this brief synopsis tell you about every detail as it is too much to describe, suffice it to say it was truly well worth the donation we paid for the museum and docents.



Lastly the museum tour ended with a tour through the Tiffany Chapel which was designed by Tiffany and created by the Tiffany Glass and Decorating Company. I found out this company was located in Corona, NY which is in the borough of Queens. I never knew this was less than a mile from where I grew up, who knew? The Chapel was created in Byzantine-Romanesque style and consists of interior elements that include marble and white glass altar in front of six carved arches each supported by double columns all on elevated mosaic platforms. Tiffany loved peacocks and lilies which the chapels display in glass. The glasswork is built on Christian themes and occupies over a 1000 sq ft.

This was definitely a tour you do not want to miss and if you get a chance go to Winter Park and see this museum. After the museum we had a chance to walk Park Avenue and eat at one of the many bistros that adorn the avenue and just see the many fine boutiques along the way. I promised myself that I am going back just to visit all the cool spots along the avenue as it is a great time just to take in the culture of Winter Park.

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# Taking My Boxster to the Great Smoky Mountains

Article and photos by George Allred

In need of a few days of driving, I figured I would head up to the Smoky Mountains. This would include stints through Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. On the way back my plan was to visit my daughter and family north of Atlanta.

I decided on staying in Robbinsville NC at the Blue Waters Mountain Lodge. Getting there took me to Augusta on the first day. And surprise! After years of arguing with Google maps about not sticking to interstates, it routed me to Augusta via some enjoyable secondary roads. This continued on the next day when, after leaving I20, the secondary roads eventually took me to Wayah Road in NC. 28 miles on second and third gear driving on a barely two-lane wide road with hardly any traffic. What a drive! This put into the Nantahala National Forest and more great driving, then into Robbinsville. The day had beautiful weather, a bit chilly, but sunny.

I found out that the side air intakes on the Boxster collected leaves, but not on the grills on the front. I also had to relearn downshifting when going up hills. Funny! I've been living in Florida way too long.

Blue Waters Mountain Lodge was the perfect spot to stay for this trip. A hundred or so yards from the lodge was the intersection of US129. Go left and head to Oldfield Gap



The mountains are calling...

and Tail of the Dragon. Go right, and quickly get to NC143, the east end of the Cherohala Skyway.

I went left. I've been hearing about Tail of the Dragon for years. Stopped at one of the gift shops and purchased the obligatory stickers and magnet. The Tail of the Dragon was a fun drive, if a bit short. The Cherohala Skyway on the other hand, was a fifty-mile drive over the mountains, through rain and clouds, with almost zero visibility in spots. I put the top down when I left the Tail of the Dragon. Then as I climbed in altitude on the Cherohala Skyway temps dropped and the top went up.

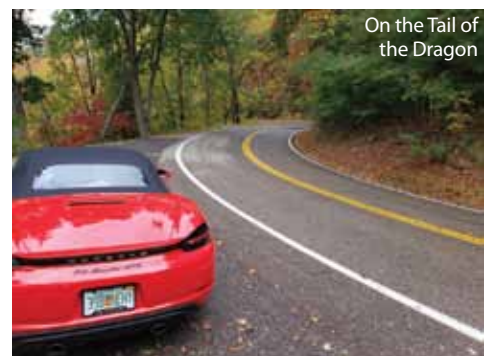
What a great day of driving. Then back to the lodge and look out over Lake Santeetlah.

Saturday morning off to the Atlanta area to visit family. This took me into the Chattahoochee National Forest and through good but crowded roads at Six Gap. Up until this point I encountered minimal traffic.

Trip mileage total was 1462 miles. I did not do any stopping and sightseeing since I was driving alone and just wanted to drive. The Boxster was right at home on these roads and the interstates. Now to start planning next year's trip.



Blue Waters Mountain Lodge



On the Tail of the Dragon

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# Member Spotlight

## Esteban Valentin

Article and photos by Ray Baldino

**Ray:** Our featured guest today is Esteban Valentin. I had the opportunity to photograph this awesome 2018 GT3. This obviously looks like a special interior with special stitching and stuff.

**Esteban:** Yeah, it's a full leather interior with extended stitching on it, it has all carbon, so they did well. The seats are the carbon lightweight bucket seats, so they're not adjustable but perfect for track days.

**Ray:** Did you buy this new?

**Esteban:** No, I bought this less than three months ago. I've always wanted one. I'm big into BMWs, but I say that every BMW fan is also a Porsche fan, so when opportunity popped up on this one locally, I jumped on this immediately and purchased it from Porsche Melbourne.

**Ray:** What intrigued you to buy this car?

**Esteban:** I've always had a fascination for the 911. It's like the top Porsche that we've always known to love. The GT3 is the high-performance end of it. It's not as raw as the GT4RS, but for a car that I want to be able to use on the street comfortably and on a weekend at the track. The GT3 filled all my needs. This year particularly is the 4-liter engine which corrected a lot of the issues that the 991.1 had, those engines had some issues that basically Porsche made sure that this 4-liter would never encounter. This is the perfect blend of raw and refined car for me and was looking for a 991.2 specifically.

**Ray:** I know this can't be your first Porsche you've owned; you must have had other Porsches.

**Esteban:** Yes, it is the first one I've owned. A lot of people asked me that same question. This is when I knew that I was going to get into the Porsche brand and I always wanted to do it with a bang, so, I went for a GT3. I always said that when I was going to buy a Porsche I wanted to have Center locks and I waited till the moment that I could get it.

**Ray:** Nice. Well, it's certainly a beautiful car. Tell us about what's underneath the hood here?

**Esteban:** So, this has a 4 liter Flat 6. It puts out 500 horsepower, which when you combine with the curb weight of about 3,100 pounds, it has a perfect power to weight ratio. It's a high-revving motor that loves to hit 9000rpm, I needed it to be a 6-speed manual and wanted the carbon seats. I really wasn't focused on the color; I would have taken any color that popped up. The color of this car is chalk, it's a special color, and that's why I was all over the car. I am a big car guy and got it from my dad. My dad was my best friend, my hero. I lost him about a year ago. I would have loved him to see me buy this car and take him for a ride because he was a really big Enthusiast. So ever since I was a little kid, he always has some nice fast cars. I'm heavily involved with a BMW car Club of America, so getting into the Porsche Club was a natural transition and I'm looking



forward to doing a lot of activities. The local PCA club Space Coast is super active and I see a lot of work that they do so definitely looking forward to getting involved.

**Ray:** You had mentioned you do the autocross?

**Esteban:** Autocross is amazing opportunity and it worked well with the Space Coast PCA. I was always trying to get into the AX with my BMW's. I contacted someone from the muscle car museum and they put me in contact with Space Coast, and we connected, and I explained to them that I'm one of the presidents of the local CCA chapter. So, we ended up doing a collaboration with the PCA between BMW CCA. It was great seeing a lot of pure Porsche owners come over and say they used to have a BMW and I really connected with the local PCA members and they were happy to see me with a Porsche GT-3.

**Ray:** I know you're going to do well because this is a fantastic car and I appreciate your time today. It's beautiful. It's a beautiful piece of equipment and I wish you the best of luck with it.

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# Kaffeeklatsch Report

Article by Robin Hoffman  
Photos by Robin Hoffman and David Kelly

Our region is so large that we meet at 3 locations for our monthly get togethers. No need to RSVP – just come on out and bring your Porsche! We spend most of our time in the parking lot visiting where there is lots of room to visit and talk “Porsche”. This last quarter was especially busy in our region and we launched 3 events from our Cars and Coffee.

In October, our Fall Gimmick Rally launched from our New Smyrna KK. On December 2, we held our Melbourne KK at the American Muscle Car Museum where our Charity Calendar was unveiled and copies sold to increase our donation to the Dogs for Life Charity. Finally, our Porsche Parade of Presents left from the Vero KK to drive to His Place Ministries to deliver car loads of toys to kids in Brevard.



# Cayenne Launch at Porsche Melbourne

Article by Sue Kee  
Photos by Robin Hoffman

A big Thank You to Shay Rowe and Porsche Melbourne for such a great Cayenne launch party. Over 100 people came out to celebrate the new 2024 Cayenne. Donna Edwards outdid herself planning this one with a beautiful Porsche painting and building your own charcuterie board, complete with a personal charcuterie board gift to take home to use. Along with that, there was a specialty drink just for the occasion, wine, and spirits and even a specialty coffee bar. Not to be outdone, there was an incredible macaroon and sweets dessert tier. There was even a special design your own Porsche area for adults and kids to enjoy as well as lots and lots of door prizes handed out. It was great seeing and catching up with so many Space Coast Members as well as some new Porsche members too.



A hashtag like no other

All the Porsche Salespeople were on hand to answer questions and demonstrate some of the Cayenne features. Needless to say, we all had a WONDERFUL time! Rumor has it that 3 members took home a new Cayenne.

Porsche Melbourne really knows how to put on a wonderful event to remember that we all enjoyed.



Melissa and Juan Diaz with their new Cayenne



Delicious dessert tier



DIY artwork for adults and kids

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# A Visit to Grandview, the Clydesdale Farm

Article by Stan Bowers  
Photos by Stan Bowers and Robert Kantor

On November 3rd, Loretta and I departed Cocoa along with neighbors Jack and Linda Young headed to Silver Springs/Ocala for the weekend events, the Clydesdale Horse Farm and Glass Bottomed Boat Tour of Silver Springs. We took I-95 up to Ormond Beach and headed west from there. Good thing we didn't spend a lot of time sprucing up the cars as we ran into rain for about 45 minutes on the way over.



Large turnout for the weekend fun

Checking into the Holiday Inn Express in Silver Spring, we just had enough time to freshen up and make the 45-minute drive to El Nezcacal, where some of the attendees met for dinner. Afterwards we made the short drive over to the Clydesdale Farm, Grandview. There we were met by Shannon and Karen Cobbs, the owners and tour guides. After a brief introduction, we split into two groups and were treated to some short videos and a history of how they met and eventually ended up in Florida. Seems both their families had been into raising horses for 5 generations, Shannon in the midwest and Karen in Canada. After they were married and lived in Canada, they had around 100 horses, but agreed to downsize when they moved to Florida. They now keep around 40 onsite. They have no hired help and themselves and their two sons do all the work on the farm. This included building all the stables and barns they currently have.



Christmas barn

After being introduced to some of the horses in their stable we moved over to a barn where Karen gave us a demonstration of how they braid the manes for competition. Shannon then showed us all the equipment the horses wear when in a show. A question was asked as to how much the horses weigh and eat daily. Shannon said they weigh around 2100 to 2200 pounds when fully grown. They each eat 2 bags



The Clydesdales in their stalls

of food daily, 100 pounds at a cost of around \$50. That works out to be about \$2,000 a day for food for 40 horses! The foals are born in the spring and early summer. Of course, Clydesdales are associated with Budweiser Beer and Budweiser has purchased some of their horses from the Cobbs. They offer daytime tours 3 days a week and special holiday tours 5 nights a week.

In February they sponsor Grandview World Nights, a glorious competition of the highest level in the draft horse industry. This competition consists of the Clydesdales, Percherons and Belgians; the largest and most powerful horses in the world. This three-day event will take place at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala, Florida in February.

Thank goodness for GPS. When we left the farm, it was pitch dark and some roads were dirt. We would never have found our way back to the hotel without ours! Thanks to Steve Tarr for setting up this overnight trip and Justin Cercone for stepping up to help. It was very informative and well received by all who attended. I know some of the attendees plan to return in February with our club for the Grandview World Nights competition. This event is on [ClubRegistration.net](http://ClubRegistration.net) to sign up for now.



Glass bottomed boat

# Tech Spotlight

## Key Fob Battery Replacement

Article and photos by Rob Van Name

This article describes replacing the battery in your Porsche key fob. This is a regular maintenance item that needs to take place after you get a low key fob battery warning message in your car. It is best to consult your owner's manual to see what type of battery is required. The manual will also show you how to access the battery for replacement. My 2015 Cayenne requires a CR2032 battery, YMMV.

Roughly the procedure is:

- Separate the key fob from any key ring you may have.
- Remove the emergency key.
- Using a small screw drive remove the back cover of the key fob.
- Remove the old battery noting the polarity (for my car the + side faces you).
- Install the new battery noting the polarity.
- Install the back cover by pressing it firmly into place.
- Re-insert the emergency key into the key fob.

- Re-install the key ring and keys you may have.

Here is my key fob with the emergency key released:



Here is my key fob with the back opened:



Depending upon your key fob design these steps may vary. Again check your owner's manual for reference.



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# Space Coast Classifieds

## FOR SALE: 2005 911 Carrera S

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## FOR SALE: 2011 GTS Cabriolet



29,800 miles, PDK, dark blue metallic, Metropol blue top, black interior. \$131,925 MSRP. Never tracked. Garage kept and meticulously maintained by its senior owner. No hits/paintwork/stories or mods. Clean CarFax. \$84,500. Contact Tom

in Vero Beach at (954) 263-4800 or text [tkzigler@aol.com](mailto:tkzigler@aol.com).

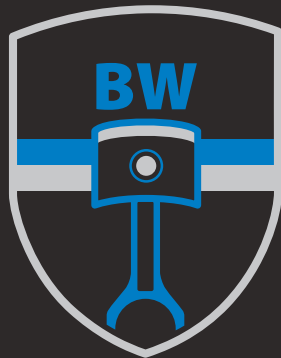
## FOR SALE: 2008 911 Carrera 4 Cabriolet

53,300 miles. Custom wheels and only 2,200 miles on tires. Purchased as Certified vehicle from Orlando Porsche in 2017. Ceramic paint protection added and garage kept. The accident reported on carfax was a parking lot fender bender, and full details available. \$44,000. Call or text Vernon Khail in Vero Beach at (404) 863-3292.



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# A Picture is Worth a Thousand (Swear) Words

Article by Scott Hansen  
Photos by Robin Hoffman

The Fall Family Gimmick Rally took place on Sunday, October 15th .... a Chamber of Commerce weather day in Florida. The rally featured a fun family friendly format that had drivers, navigators and passengers keeping their eyes peeled for 49 picture clues scattered along over 80 miles of Porsche friendly roads.



It was a fantastic rally for experienced “Rally-ists” and first timers alike. Teams carefully followed the winding route instructions concocted by (evil) Rally Masters Brian Reinert and David O’Neal. All each team had to do was record their mileage (to the tenth of a mile) at the point each picture clue came into view. Easy...right? Well, let’s just say that every one of the 17 rally teams had their moments of agony and ecstasy along the way. “Slow down! I’m looking for the @\$#& turtles on the fence!” followed moments later by “Woohoo, there’s the yard full of tractors!” However, the good news is that, as of press time, there were no known divorces, break-ups or child abandonments resulting from the rally.



The day began with the rally teams joining other PCA Members attending the monthly North End Kaffeeklatsch at the Little Griddle in downtown New Smyrna Beach. There were plenty of awesome Porsches to drool over leading up to the start of the rally. In fact, your humble correspondent and George Sautter

were spotted checking out the centerfold in the last issue of **Escape Velocity!**



The route was absolutely fantastic, leading rally participants out to the beach, then all the way to Osteen, winding through beautiful communities along the way (boy... that was a lot of right turns). The checkered flag waved at scenic Fox Lake Park, just west of Titusville, where a fantastic BBQ lunch was served while Brian and David carefully tabulated the results. Participants also had a little time to relax and have a bit of fun prior to the awards ceremony!



## First Timer Results



- 1st Place: Braeden Whitecotton and Mackenzie Cerjan
- 2nd Place: Lonnie Miller, Erin Miller and Paige Smith
- 3rd Place: Pam Willingham and Chris Kokai

## Rally-ist Results



- 1st Place: George and Maureen Sautter
- 2nd Place: Scott and Becke Hansen
- 3rd Place: Colete Glencross and Ray Andrews

## Spirit Award



Daniel Rizzardi and Shannon Sahinbas

So, with that, another successful rally is in the record books. Thanks to rally masters Brian Reinert and David O’Neal for a job well done, and thanks to everyone that helped setup and organize this enjoyable event. It’s not just the cars...it’s the people!

# Advertiser Spotlight

## Real Iconic Realty

We are so pleased to welcome a new advertiser Real Iconic Realty. Brad and Alisha Fairman, are the brokers and owners of Real Iconic Realty. Along with their dedicated Realtor Team, they specialize in selling in the Central Florida area and the Beaches. They like to think and truly might be the only Real Estate Team that treats you like a VIP! Their office has a fully stocked VIP Lounge with access to downtown Melbourne and a free President Club Membership to the Executive Cigar Lounge. They offer amazing marketing ideas and white glove service at a very fair price!

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# Oktoberfest 2023

Article by Steve Hoffman  
Photos by David Kelly

Our 2023 Oktoberfest is in the books and it was a fantastic event! Over 120 members came out for the perfect fall weather. Not everyone entered a car in the concours but they all enjoyed the wonderful German BBQ, and they strolled through the swap meet looking for those rare prized Porsche parts and memorabilia, and they got to view the 60 plus cars in the judged field and selected their favorites in the People's Choice category. The competitors were trying to win one of the unique hand etched Nordic style wood mugs that my wife Robin and I engraved. Every year we try to come up with unique trophies; I think this year's steins may be hard to beat.



Foggies out in force

The 356 Florida Owners Group (FOG) was there in force with 12 cars all competing for the coveted Kirk Stowers Trophy for the winner of the 356 People's Choice award. It was a tough battle but the award was given to Russell Minton for his beautiful Black 1959 A.

There were lots of other great cars out there this year. Ed Springer even brought his fully operational half-scale Speedster to display. A couple



Russell Minton wins the Kirk Stowers Trophy

Concours stand outs were Jay McGrath's 1996 Grand Prix White 993 C4S, who won the overall People's Choice award. The Best of Show award this year went to Ralph Fritsche with his 1984 Pasadena Yellow 944, which is basically a time capsule in nearly perfect condition. Ralph has mentored many of us on Concours prep and presentation over the years, so it was great to see him out there not only judging but competing and showing people what a world class car really looks like.



Jay McGrath's 1996 993 C4S People's Choice winner




Ralph Fritsche's 1984 944 Best of Show winner

The event was a huge success because of the efforts of many people. A huge Thank You to our sponsor 356 Unlimited for purchasing the trophies; Coasters for the fantastic food, beer and homemade apple strudel; our Concours judges, registration team, and everyone who brought items to sell in the Swap Meet and donated items for the Food Drive! Hope to see you there next year as we have ordered another beautiful day!




All decked out in their Oktoberfest finery!



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# The Lake Mirror Classic

Article and photos by Bob DeCardenas

The Lake Mirror Classic Show in Lakeland, FL began in 1999 by Ford Heacock of Heacock Insurance. The event takes place over three days, the actual car show is only on Saturday. This was my 10th year attending it and this year's show on October 21st celebrated the 75th Anniversary of Porsche so I was given the chance to enter my 2000 Ocean Blue Metallic Carrera (L3AZ) coupe with the Concourse cars.



Beautiful Lake Mirror

The setting for the Concourse is unique since it is around the lake. The other show cars are shown from the lake all the way up to downtown Lakeland. There is quite a bit of walking since the entries are very diversified making it a fun and educational experience. One thing that made this year so unique was that they had the General Motors Motorama vehicle and next to it was a Porsche 917 K. Talk about the diversification offered! Porsche's Ocean Blue Metallic color caused a lot of conversation especially between couples since they argued that the car was "blue no it's purple" as the car does show both colors. I entered the Porsche as a Space Coast member and it would be great if some of us would caravan next year to it and share some of the

beautiful Porsches that Space Coast has. Unfortunately attending this year's show I missed out on all of the yummy German food served at our Oktoberfest! Maybe next year, I'll be lucky enough to be able to attend both events.



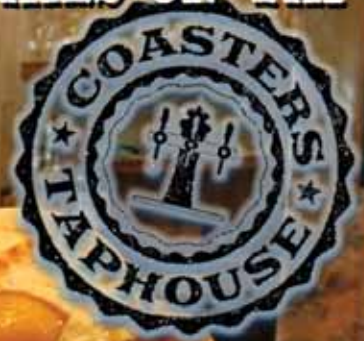
The author with his 2000 Carrera



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# 2023 Porsche vs Corvette Challenge

Article by Carmen DeVito  
Photos by Robin Hoffman

2023 marked the 5th Porsche vs Corvette Challenge Sponsored by Porsche Melbourne and the American Muscle Car Museum. So far, the Porsche team of 12 drivers won four straight times. However, each year the Cape Kennedy Corvette team has closed the gap and last year they were the top Corvette autocross club in Florida and ranked fourth in the nation. So, we expected this event to be a nail biter! Since it was our turn to host Ken Marshall designed a course that was both fast and tight, challenging both team's drivers.



Sign in here

There were aspects that the Corvette club had never seen before but also some twists new to our team. So, the course was fair to all. We had a great turn out of spectators from both clubs to cheer on their respective teams. The best drivers from each club showed up to run 6 times, establish a fastest time and create the fastest time average. That team would win the day and keep the trophy until the next challenge. In the end we made it 5 in a row with a 67.0382 second average time and a gap of 24.3 seconds!

Cheers for Porsche and Space Coast drivers. Top honors went to Trent Kisonok in a red 2016 991 GTS followed by George Krivo in a



Plenty of fast Corvettes...

beautiful 2023 GT3. The next fastest was a new C8 Corvette driven by Keith Grice, the quickest Corvette but 3.7 seconds behind Trent. Although we had the fastest two drivers it was the depth of our team that made the gap so wide. Our team was made up of 6 911 variants and 6 mid engine platform cars. The years ranged from 2002 to 2023 showing any Porsche can be fast and driver skill is the key. That is the basis of our autocross program and a winning foundation. Next year it is CKCC's turn to host and design the course so it might be their turn to shine.



...and corner carving Porsches



The Challenge is on!

# Space Coast December Autocross

Article by Carmen DeVito  
Photos by Robin Hoffman

The last SPC autocross of 2023 happened on a beautiful December day perfect for the event and coinciding with the central region cars and coffee so we had them together. This made for an excellent opportunity for fun driving and watching time.



Ken Marshall provided a long 70 second course that was almost identical to the one used for the Porsche vs Corvette Challenge, giving everyone a chance at that level of complexity. A total 34 entrants showed up in 12 classes, with the largest being the ladies class! Alexis Colgan proved her GT4 driving skill by taking the top of the ladies class with a 71.564 over fast drivers Julie Wilson and Tyler Colgan. The Stock 05 class saw Matt Jerozal take his couple of days old 992 T to a decisive class win with a 72.737 seconds. Newcomer, Lester Torres blistered the Stock 06 class with his 2018 Cayman with a fastest run of 76.038. Welcome to SPC Lester. Stock 07, also known as the battle of the mid engine 4 liters saw Rick Rousseau in his beautiful Boxster 25th Anniversary, David Swatz in the gorgeous Oslo Blue Spyder and first time autocrosser Tim Scannell also in a 718 Spyder face off. Rick set a fastest lap of 70.421 on his third run and although David and Tim improved every run, in the end Rick took the top honors. Congrats all, well run.



GT car class saw Tom Kirk bring his GT4RS out for the win over Chandler Gringas in a very fast 2022 GT3. Both these cars were so much fun to watch and hear. Speaking of fun to watch, Greg Clifford masterfully negotiating the course in his 1977 911S makes me wish more air cooled cars would come out. Bert Castrejon took a commanding lead on his first run and kept improving over Tommy Prusaski in the 987 Cayman production class (P04). Even though Tom also improved it wasn't enough and Bert took class honors. Alex

Harber showed us what a well driven 996 can do in Production 05 with a 73.558 seconds on his fifth and final run.



Our newest member and first time Porsche owner Esteban Valentin proved he could easily make the transition from BMW by taking the always hard to win P06 class and third fastest overall with a 69.75. Congrats on the beautiful GT3 Esteban, and welcome to Porsche cars. The drivers in your class are all fast and competitive. Well done! The Modified class is always fast and Rick Baz is as well. Rick took the 996 Turbo to the class win and second overall with a 69.728 just edging out Esteban by 2 hundreds of a second! Very fast indeed. Well driven Rick. We hope everyone had a great time whether driving or watching and hope to see you for the 2024 edition of the series.

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# HSR Races at Sebring - Pistons & Props

Article and photos by David Kelly

The 2023 season finale of the HSR Racing series was held on Saturday, December 02, 2023 with the eighth running of the HSR Classic 12 Hour Tribute Race and “Pistons & Props” featuring Run Groups for vintage race cars from the fifties through the nineties and classes for various modern Prototypes and other race cars. It was a round-robin affair with each of the Run Groups taking the track for four sessions in rotation over a 12 Hour period split between Saturday and Sunday with winners announced at race end on Sunday. The Zotz Racing Team was there supporting our very own Scott Kee who was competing in his #351 Cayman GT4 Club Sport, with encouragement from his wife Sue, our **Escape Velocity** Editor, who kept everything running smoothly throughout the race schedule. Chip Reichhart was also there running with the 901 Shop driving his '67 911S race car in the Vintage Race and Enduro. Both drivers finished well in class.



Vintage aircraft along the Race Grid

The arrival of the “Fly-in” vintage aircraft positioned along the Race Grid made the tribute to Sebring’s rich aviation and racing history even more special for the race teams and spectators. There were Porsches aplenty along with almost every other race car one can imagine for such an event. German, British, Italian, American, and Japanese cars were well represented in the Paddock, on the Grid, and competing against one another on the track. There were so many great cars that it was difficult to select any one favorite which made trips through the Paddock and to the Grid all the more interesting. A large contingent of Backdraft Cobra replicas arrived en masse continuing their recent tradition of attending the event and the owners enjoyed a special lunch served in the Sebring “Gallery of Legends.”

So many great things to see for this annual event!



Attacking Turn 17



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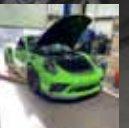
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*“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it”  
Psalm 118:24*

# Filgueiras and McAleer Win 2023 World Challenge Championship

The 2023 Fanatec GT World Challenge America powered by AWS PRO Class driver and team champions were none other than Eric Filgueiras and Stevan McAleer in the No. 28 CBW Racing RS1 Porsche 911 GT3 R.

The duo kicked off 2023 as champions from the previous race season. Together, they took top honors in the Pirelli GT4 America series, winning the Silver Class Driver Points Championship. They decided to push forward and take on the PRO Class in the Fanatec GT World Challenge America competition for 2023. Their confidence steered them in the right direction as they now are back-to-back champions within SRO Motorsports America.

The jump from an established Porsche Cayman GT4 RS Clubsport to the new Porsche 911 GT3 R gave RS1 an additional challenge alongside getting Filgueiras up to speed in GT3 competition. His teammate, McAleer, had previous GT3 experience but was behind the wheel of other manufacturers.

McAleer reflected on the nuances the team learned to create a competitive platform in the GT3 series. "This championship was much harder to win," McAleer said. "It was new to everyone- team, crew, drivers, rules and regulations. It was very challenging as we were never the fastest car but we were the most consistent, and it has proven time and time again that consistency wins championships."



Filgueiras and McAleer are the first drivers pairing to win GT4 and GT3 titles consecutively. A success story for the SRO ladder system compliments the success story the two drivers built over the 2023 race calendar.

The two drivers have confirmed they will part ways after garnering 15 wins, 26 podium finishes and 16 poles together. While RS1, Filgueiras and McAleer will announce 2024 plans separately at a later date, McAleer is sure this won't be the last time fans see their names written together.

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**Danny Baker**  
Executive Director

# A Lifelong Dream - Owning a Porsche

Article and photos by Alan Chandler

Owning a Porsche has been a lifelong dream for me. I had a picture of a 911 on my wall as a teenage boy and I had a 911 whale tail hanging on the wall of my garage when I bought my first home as a newlywed. I definitely got teased for having car parts as decorations! Through the years I have owned many cool cars, but the goal of owning a Porsche never diminished.



A few years ago, I finally was able to purchase my very first Porsche, a Cayenne S. I needed a vehicle that could do everything well, comfortable on trips, tow my boat, haul my dogs around, but still had the power of high performance driving and I ran it hard at HPD events. But the urge was still there for a sportier ride, and I wanted that 911. Hard core Porsche enthusiasts were telling me to check out the Cayman. "If you want a driver's car that you can take to the track, just try out a Cayman."

Caymans were not even a consideration when I was a young man, they did not exist. But I heeded the enthusiast's advice, and I started on the search for a clean Cayman. Not just any Cayman, but the last of the analog Porsches, a 987 Cayman. I wanted that raw hydraulic steering and the iconic sound of the flat six motor. What I found was a car with good bones that was far from clean. It needed lots of love, but I bought it knowing I could give it the love it needed.

My newly acquired 2006 Cayman S needed a lot of cleaning and a lot of general maintenance to make it a safe and reliable car. Detailing and modifying cars is what I really enjoy doing, and I went to work adding my touches to the Cayman to make it my own and give it that subtle, sporty look. I have the help of my son Mark, an Audi and VW automotive technician, to do all the maintenance with me.

We started with a very nice, beautiful cocoa leather interior, sport Chrono, electric seats, and Bose sound. We did a deep cleaning to the car and all the general maintenance a 17 year old car would need. We have added aerodynamic pieces, exhaust, the new PCCM+ touch screen, coilovers and beautiful forged wheels.

My Cayman S is not a garage queen. I drive it hard and spend a lot of time keeping it clean, so it is as beautiful as it is functional. I have had it on the Daytona Speedway for a track day and recently came back from an incredible trip with my son to the Tail of the Dragon where we really pushed it to its limits through the mountain roads.

I recently decided to take my Cayman to the Festivals of Speed in Ocala and enter it for judging among all of the cars there. The Cayman was well received by the crowd. I enjoy showing my car to people so they can see what a beautiful car it is, and I love to tell its story. The judges couldn't believe how clean it was and said how tastefully done all of the modifications are.



That day my Cayman was awarded the European Excellence award. The judges came back to me later in the day telling me how much they enjoyed reviewing my car, hearing my enthusiasm I had for the car, the Porsche brand, and how it all showed through the hard work placed in it.

My lifelong dream of owning a Porsche is now a reality and winning that trophy is the cherry on top of the cake of that dream. I hope everyone gets the chance in their lifetime to feel the exhilaration and excitement I feel when I drive my Cayman. It has brought me a lot of joy in so many ways.



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# A Few Pro Tips from a Rookie Member

Article by Jim DePietro  
Photo by Robin Hoffman

I recently was blessed to have achieved my most elusive bucket list item... the purchase of a gently-used Porsche. Embarrassingly enough, I've owned well over 100 cars. But alas, my quest for a Porsche was consistently just outside of my reach. This August was different, however and with the loving support and encouragement from my wife, Pam, I am now the proud owner of a 2008 911 C4 coupe with a 6-speed.

I literally searched for this car for over 17 months; watched countless YouTube videos; read volumes upon volumes of technical journals, blogs, reviews, and; sought the sagely counsel of industry professionals. I had a lot of assistance from many different folks along the way. Dan Cleary, owner of the Werkshop, was highly instrumental in helping me find the right car. Dan performed the Pre-Purchase Inspection (PPI) for me and I still hear the echoes of his prophetic voice predicting that, "your first Porsche won't be your last Porsche".

In retrospect, I interacted with numerous individuals across this great country prior to concluding the purchase of my first Porsche. Many of these individuals I had no prior relationship with and yet, they were willing to assist a complete stranger on his quest. Thus, demonstrating to me that it's not just the cars, it's the people.

Prior to the purchase of my 911, I spent a considerable amount of time on the Space Coast Region PCA website. There wasn't a link on that site that I didn't click. The aforementioned tag line, it's not just the cars, it's the people, must have been burned deep into the recesses of my subconscious mind. Early in my quest for the car, Cindy Hambidge recommended that I join PCA as a Test Drive member (<https://www.pca.org/pca-test-drive>). Regretfully, I did not heed her wise advice because I wanted to be a "full member" and to be a full member, one must actually own a Porsche. So, my next pro tip is to listen to the counsel of established members and take the Test Drive. My wife and I missed out on 17 months in developing relationships and attending activities with our PCA friends. By the way, the first thing that I did after I registered my 911 was to join PCA!

The best pro tip, however; is to get involved. You'll only get out of this club what you are willing to invest in it. The club doesn't function without dedicated and committed volunteers. Space Coast Region PCA is exceedingly fortunate to have a very strong leadership team. From what I have personally experienced, Robin Hoffman has done an exceptional job leading the cause and has been a true champion in representing Team Porsche.

During my affiliation with PCA, I have been to several Kaffeeklatsch's, a few Autocrosses, the Oktoberfest Concours and more recently, the New Member Brunch. All of these events were highly organized and of the utmost quality. The recent New Member Brunch was quite festive and provided an excellent opportunity to mingle with both new Porsche owners and established members, alike. Steve Tarr and Robin Hoffman were stellar in their roles as emcees and both went out of their way to make all of us newbies feel welcomed. In addition, several members walked away with some amazing door prizes, one of which was a \$500 gift certificate from our local sponsor, Porsche of Melbourne. You won't want to miss the next New Member Brunch!



In conclusion, I realize that a 15-year-old 2008 911 C4 may not seem like a very special car in light of the newer and advanced technology that Porsche produces. But it is special to me. It's not just about the car, but the people and the story behind it... but that's a tale to be told at a later date.

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# Space Coast Holiday Party and Annual Meeting

Article and photos by Robin Hoffman

Our Holiday Party this year was held at the Hilton Melbourne Oceanfront. There was great food, great friends, and a beautiful night. Besides the delicious food (which included a Prime Rib carving station), we had a DJ setting the Holiday mood and then rocking the place for dancing after the quick meeting. Porsche Melbourne provided us with some very nice door prizes for the lucky ticket holders. Thanks to the generosity of our members, we collected a pile of toys under the Christmas tree to donate to His Place Ministries in Melbourne for needy families.



Just look at the size of those shrimp

Everyone who attended the dinner was treated to our 2024 Space Coast Charity Calendar which raised approximately \$3000 for Dogs for Life, a Vero Charity which connects service dogs to veterans.



Happy party goes by the charity donation tree

Thank you to Porsche Melbourne for arranging to pay for the printing of the calendar and thank you to all our Club Members who sent in photos of their Porsches and pets and donated so we could support Dogs for Life. Calendars are still available if you'd like one, contact Robin Hoffman. They're \$10 each with all proceeds going to Dogs for Life.

Our Holiday Party is a great opportunity to give thanks for all the support we receive and have an election for new officers for next year. We are fortunate to have so many people to thank for supporting our Club every year. Having Shay Rowe and Porsche Melbourne open to host events and lend support to our activities is a generosity we are so fortunate to receive. We gave Donna Edwards a plaque in appreciation for her efforts as our Porsche Melbourne liaison for more than a decade. Thank you to our Advertisers who are a huge part of making our newsletter, **Escape Velocity**, available to all of our members. And to Mark Pieloch who has been a big supporter to the Club for our Autocrosses and Charity Events. Space Coast PCA embossed journals were given to all the people who had contributed to **EV** and Club activities through the year. Thank you all!

Our elections were held and your officers for 2024 are:

**President** – Steve Tarr

**Vice President** – Paul Bennice

**Executive Vice President** – Joe Costa

**Secretary** – Ed Springer

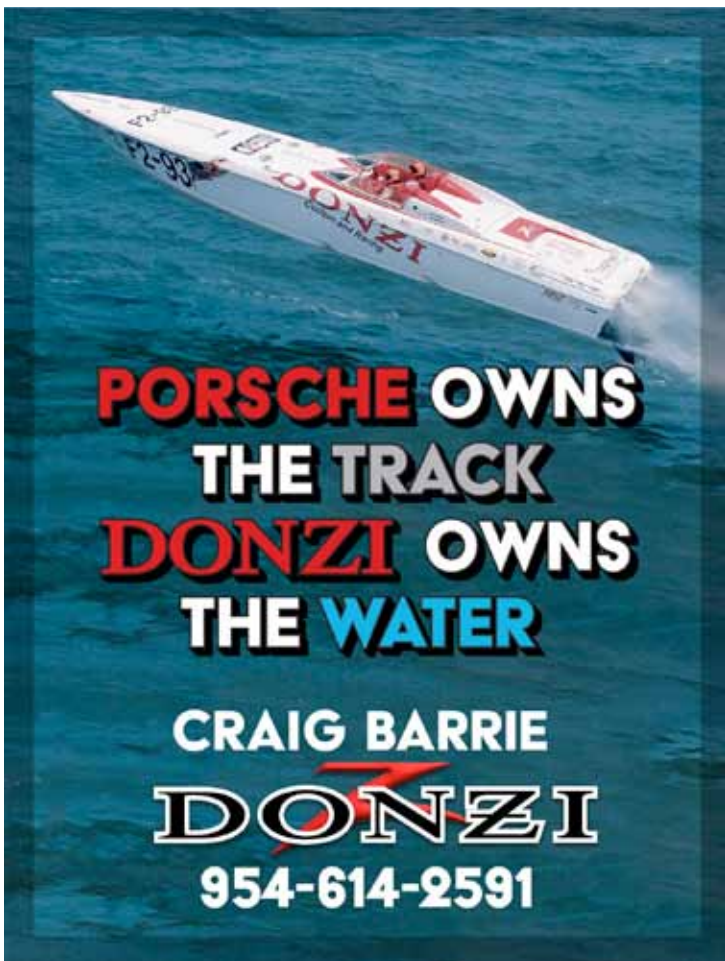
**Treasurer** – Steve Hoffman

**North Coordinator** – Milt Weisman

**South Coordinator** – Robert Kantor

**Past President** – Robin Hoffman

**Congratulations to the new 2024 Officers!**

A speedboat with 'DONZI' written on its side is shown on the water. Below the boat, there is bold text: 'PORSCHE OWNS THE TRACK', 'DONZI OWNS THE WATER', 'CRAIG BARRIE', 'DONZI', and '954-614-2591'. The background is a dark blue water surface.

# St. Augustine Lights

Article by Alice Tarr  
Photos by Steve Hoffman

Snow, Rain, Sleet or Shine – Space Coast PCA members take on an Adventure!



Space Coast Porsche Club members and friends made it an “adventure” to visit St. Augustine for the Annual City of Lights Trolley Tour on a stormy night. It was a first for many of us to see the city all lit up for Christmas. We braved the wind and rain to take part in this Space Coast event! Many came up earlier in the day before the rain to take in “Our Nation’s Oldest City”, and the famous historic district. It is a treasure trove of historic landmarks including the Castillo de St. Marcos which is a 17th century fortress made from coquina shells. We had lunch at Odd Birds over the Bridge of Lions on Anastasia Boulevard, then parked in the

main parking garage downtown where the Trolley would be leaving from. We walked thru the City Gates along St. George Street. There are so many shops to explore and fun things to see including the art exhibit at the Government House made up of some early Florida artists including a painting by Louis Comfort Tiffany! We ate at the Columbia. It is a Cuban/Spanish restaurant, and the food was excellent. The rain began around 7 pm. We caught up to some of the Space Coast gang around 7:30. Members were in great spirits, even though the wind was blowing and the rain was coming down. Soon it was our turn, and we were given our 3D type glasses and a rain poncho. We boarded our own Space Coast Trolley. The lights looked like snowflakes with the glasses on. We traveled the streets of St. Augustine singing Christmas carols and wishing others a Merry Christmas. It was an adventure alright. Yes, we got wet, but they had a hot cup of cider and a sugar cookie to top off the evening!



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# coming attractions

Jan 2-14	Mecum Auto Auction @ Kissimmee
Jan 6	Mid Region Kaffeeklatsch @ Panera, 4100 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne 9 am
Jan 6-7	Suncoast HPDE @ Sebring
Jan 13	Autocross @ AMCM, (Sponsored by Porsche Melbourne) 7 am
Jan 13	Drive to Zotz Racing @ Cocoa Sam's Club, I-95 & 520, 7:30 am
Jan 13	DE Tech Session for Beginner & Advanced @ Zotz Racing, Orlando, FL, 9 am
Jan 14	South Kaffeeklatsch @ Panera, 2001 Indian River Blvd, Vero 9 am
Jan 19-21	Roar Before the Rolex 24 Testing @ Daytona International Speedway
Jan 20	Drive to the Roar Before the Rolex 24 @ Cocoa Sam's Club, I-95 & 520, 9 am
Jan 21	North Kaffeeklatsch @ TBD, 9 am
Jan 26	Ormond Loop Drive before the Art of Speed @ Books-A-Million Volusia Mall, 2 pm
Jan 26	Art of Speed Charity Event, 1 Daytona Blvd, Daytona Beach 6:30 pm
Jan 26-28	Rolex 24 Hospitality Tent @ Daytona International Speedway
Jan 27	Women's Tennis Tournament & Porsche Car Show, Grand Harbor Golf & Beach Club, 9:45 am
Jan 27-28	61st Rolex 24 at Daytona @ Daytona International Speedway
Feb 1-4	48 Hours at Sebring PCA Racing & DE @ Sebring Raceway
Feb 2	PCA Autocross School at the 48 Hours of Sebring
Feb 3	Autocross Challenge at the 48 Hours of Sebring
Feb 3	Mid Region Kaffeeklatsch @ Panera, 4100 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne 9 am
Feb 4	Porsche and Channel Affair: Where Elegance Meets Speed @ Dillard's Indian River Mall, 10 am
Feb 9-10	Grandview Equestrian Event @ the World Equestrian Center, Ocala
Feb 11	South Kaffeeklatsch @ Panera, 2001 Indian River Blvd, Vero 9 am
Feb 11	Get into the Groove - Slot Car Race @ Vero Beach Outlet Mall
Feb 15	All Members Meeting @ Porsche Melbourne, 6 pm
Feb 17	Autocross @ AMCM, (Sponsored by Porsche Melbourne) 7 am
Feb 17	Porsches and Polo @ Windsor Club, Vero Beach, 10 am
Feb 18	North Kaffeeklatsch @ TBD, 9 am
Feb 21	Belgium Night @ Coaster's Biergarten, 6 pm
Mar 1	Werks Reunion 2024 @ Amelia Island
Mar 1-3	Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance
Mar 2	Mid Region Kaffeeklatsch @ Panera, 4100 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne, 9 am
Mar 8-10	Rodeo Weekend at Westgate River Ranch, River Ranch
Mar 10	South Kaffeeklatsch @ Panera, 2001 Indian River Blvd, Vero 9 am
Mar 15	Date Your Porsche Night, Urban Prime Restaurant, Melbourne
Mar 16	71st running of the 12 Hours of Sebring, Sebring Raceway
Mar 17	North Kaffeeklatsch @ TBD, 9 am
Mar 21-24	356 Gathering of the Faithful @ Daytona
Mar 22-24	Suncoast HPDE @ Sebring
Mar 30	Autocross @ AMCM, (Sponsored by Porsche Melbourne) 7 am
Mar 30	Charity Ice Cream Social and Tour @ AMCM, 3500 Sarno Rd, Noon - 2 pm

SPC events shown in blue. Dates and times subject to change. Keep an eye out for additional drives and other events that are still in the planning stages on our website calendar <https://www.spacecoastpca.org/calendar>.

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