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SUMMER 2026

PRESSE



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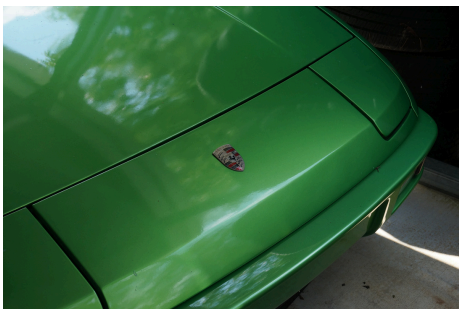
*2026 Porsche Macan lease special. 24 month lease. \$550 per month plus tax. 5,000 miles per year. \$0.30 per mile over. \$9,995 due at signing, includes first month's payment, acquisition fee and complimentary Gap Insurance. \$0 security deposit. Pricing excludes tax, tag, title and Lemon Law fee. \$799 dealer doc fee included. Porsche Service Maintenance Plan included for first two years of lease. Online price \$64,660. Offer expires August 31, 2026. Subject to vehicle availability. Example stock number SLP22452.

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THE COVER



Cover photo by Leonie Hildebrandt: 1987 924S at 944Barn in Blairsville, GA. See story about Elliott Grafton and 944Barn on page 5.

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The next issue of the 2026 Presse is scheduled to be published on **Nov 2nd**.

Articles and photographs are requested to be submitted by **Oct 5th**.

Articles submitted for publication in the Presse are subject to approval by the President and Editor. If published, the Editor reserves the right to edit articles for clarity, grammar, accuracy of content and available space. Photographs must be high-resolution JPG files taken personally or acquired with rights for publication. Submit articles in a Word document, without inserted photos or special formatting directly to the editor: presse@peachstatepca.org.



The Peachstate Presse is published by Peachstate Region, Inc. of the Porsche Club of America, 5579 Chamblee Dunwoody Road, Suite B #1053, Dunwoody, GA 30338-4154.

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Are you receiving the PRESSE WEEKLY? The weekly email will update you on club news and upcoming events: monthly socials, driving tours, rally dates, autocrosses, concours, tech sessions, driver's education, and special events. If you're not receiving the weekly emails, update your membership record at www.pca.org with your current email address, or reach out to: andrew.ellsom@peachstatepca.org.

Follow us on social media!

 [/groups/www.peachstatepca.org](https://www.pca.org/groups/www.peachstatepca.org)

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 [@PeachstatePCA1162](https://www.youtube.com/PeachstatePCA1162)

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FROM THE ROAD

MIKE GIAMMARCO - PEACHSTATE REGION, PCA PRESIDENT

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU WERE INSPIRED? REALLY INSPIRED?

This past year, we tagged “Heart of Peachstate.” Not a new concept for this club since we’ve provided a lot of financial and personal support for so many worthy charities and community causes over the last six decades. We also added a Charity Chair to oversee the integrity of our efforts to ensure real community value and impact. We added a Charity Policy to our website, next to our Bylaws, to provide transparency to our members.

Traditionally, we’ve used the annual Holiday Party, in the spirit of the season and giving, to present our charitable donations to worthy recipients. One long standing beneficiary has been the [Tommy Nobis Center](#).

Tommy was the very first Atlanta Falcon pick in the 1966 NFL Draft and a Pro Bowl veteran – the real “Mr. Falcon.” To cap an amazing football career, he founded the Tommy Nobis Center to help the disabled. We were lucky enough to have him at Peachstate Holiday parties (see Presse Archive Jan 2016). Tommy passed in 2017 but his legacy, and our commitment to support his vision persists.

A funny thing happened at our Holiday Party last year. I was seated next to Penny, our Charity Chair, and Meagan Davis, VP of Development for the Tommy Nobis Center. Meagan readily acknowledged that the generosity of Peachstate PCA Members over the years has helped them grow into one of the most successful and impactful charitable organizations in Georgia.

We appreciated that, but our Charity Chair boldly asked, “Given the overwhelming generosity and support from so many sources over the years, and your success, what do you really need today?” Meagan did not hesitate – “Volunteers!”

A new day was born. “Volunteers” it is. There is just no substitute for Peachstate members to go beyond “writing a check,” which was highly impactful at the time, to personally experiencing and contributing to the great work the Tommy Nobis Center has been providing to the disabled in preparing for and pursuing employment.

In football lingo, “skin in the game!” You may remember the Presse Weekly Charity calls for volunteers. I was so fortunate to attend two recent visits to the Tommy Nobis Center with other Peachstate volunteers to personally face middle, high school and young adult age groups – all with disabilities and help mentor them to employment success.

I think I can speak for everyone that attended: it was one of the most impressive facilities and staff I’ve experienced – genuine folks who put their hearts in their work. And most importantly, the kids and young adults were amazing. You could sense the air was filled with hope and possibilities as they shared their personal aspirations and never hesitated to ask us questions.

**WHEN WE LEFT, WE WERE ALL
SO INSPIRED, WE JUST
COULDN'T HELP THINKING
WHO BENEFITED MORE FROM
THESE VISITS?**

**I THINK IT WAS US. I KNOW
WE'LL BE BACK.**

JOIN US!



2026 EVENTS COMING UP

AUG 8TH PEACHSTATE Kaffee

Hosted by PCA supporter, Atlanta Ceramic Coatings / Alpharetta, GA
All are welcome @8:00 AM.



AUG 10TH Monday Drive-N-Dine

Taco Mac at the Prado / Sandy Springs, GA
Join us for dinner at our monthly Drive-N-Dine @5:30PM.



AUG 15TH Collision Repair: Bringing a Porsche Back to New

Mundy's Collision Center / Lawrenceville, GA
Join us for an informative tech session. Please register on peachstatepca.org.



AUG 16TH Hennessy Porsche North Atlanta Concours (#3) with Catered Lunch

Roswell, GA / Rain or Shine
[Hennessy Porsche North Atlanta](#) is graciously offering their entire service area.



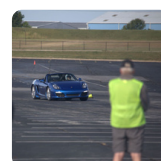
AUG 18TH Down South Social

Habaneroz Tacoz & Tequillaz / Senoia, GA
Enjoy the engaging crowd of Porsche owners at a new location.



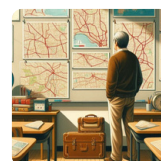
AUG 23RD Autocross #5

Echo Park Speedway / Hampton, GA
Sponsored by [Kelly's Automotive Repair](#).



SEP 2ND Rennfest Rally School

Join us online as we prep you for another exciting Rally through the hills of North Georgia.



SEP 3RD - 7TH Rennfest 2026 / Registration closed 7/31

Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa / Young Harris, GA
Join the Porsche Community for a weekend full of activities and fun drives.



SEP 22ND Down South Social

Save the Date



Check out our Calendar at <https://www.peachstatepca.org/calendar>, our [Facebook Page](#), [Instagram](#) or the Presse Weekly e-blast emails for the latest schedule and full details - and be sure to come out and see us!

FEATURE LANE

STORY: SABRINA HEINRICHSORFF, INTERVIEW WITH ELLIOTT GRAFTON / PHOTOS: ELLIOTT GRAFTON (IG [@944BARN](#)), LEONIE HILDEBRANDT, MARCO NARANJO / SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS: JOSH HACKENBERG (IG [@JOSHHACK.MEDIA](#)), LEONIE HILDEBRANDT



PHOTO BY ELLIOTT GRAFTON

EVERY ENTHUSIAST HAS AN ORIGIN STORY

FROM A WRECKED 944 IN A MIAMI JUNKYARD TO A DESTINATION FOR TRANSAXLE ENTHUSIASTS

A driving tour through the North Georgia mountains is reason enough to get behind the wheel of a Porsche. But add a stop at 944Barn, and the journey becomes about much more than just the roads.

As part of a driving tour organized by Steve Pera (Tour Co-Chair) and Marc Ajello (Ambassador 924, 944, 968, 928), we recently had the opportunity to visit 944Barn and meet with Elliott Grafton to learn how a chance encounter with a wrecked Porsche 944 sparked a lifelong passion—one that has grown into a thriving business and an impressive collection that connects a community of enthusiasts stretching across the country.

EVERY ENTHUSIAST HAS AN ORIGIN STORY

When Elliott was fifteen years old and living in Orlando, his parents encouraged him to get his first job. He began working at a family member's junkyard in Miami, where he got his first lesson on how to take cars apart. In 2004, one particular car caught his attention. Sitting among the rows of discarded vehicles was a Guards Red Porsche 944 with a

damaged quarter panel. That 944 became his first car in high school and it opened the door to an entire community.

He started going to car shows, autocross events, local meet ups, and became active in online forums. In 2009, supercharging the car ultimately destroyed the engine.

Elliott held on to this car, and now, more than twenty years later, he still has sentimental attachment to his first 944. "It was like my coming-of-age story". He plans to "repaint the whole car, redo the interior, rebuild the engine the right way, give it the supercharger kit" to bring the car back to life and turn it into a car he can take pride in saying: "I built this". After all, his first car holds a special place in his story.

Many of us can relate to the sentiment, because we wish we had held on to our very first car.

What eventually ended up becoming his daily driver was a Lime Green 1983 944, purchased on Craigslist for \$500. After reviving it and swapping out the engine, he started



The Lime Green 1983 944

Elliott and his co-worker, Canyon, working on the 1986 944 Turbo.



24 Hours of Lemons / Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta in 2022 / Drivers: E. Grafton, M. Naranjo, J. Nelson



participating in HPDE events, car shows, and autocross. The Lime Green 944 became the car people associated him with on the road and at events.

THE APPEAL OF THE TRANSAXLE PORSCHE

Spending time at 944Barn, one question naturally comes to mind: Why the 944? It's a front-engine Porsche that many enthusiasts once overlooked.

It is well balanced and rewards the driver's skill. It doesn't have a lot of power, which is what makes it fun and challenging: "It's a challenge to drive on track and really use the car's momentum and handling characteristics to get you further along rather than just straight power". According to Elliott, the 50/50 weight balance and being lightweight inspires confidence to push the car because it is easier to regain control.

ON THE FAST TRACK

One of his most tracked cars is a 1986 944 Turbo. It is specifically set up for HPDE track events. When he initially got the car, it was plain silver, and the paint was in rough shape. It was the perfect opportunity to completely change up the vibe and go with a "crazy 80's, Miami Vice-style" racing livery in bright teal, pink and white. If the 944 wasn't already catching eyes, the livery made it stand out on the track.

The car was a former SP3 944 Turbo race car. "The previous owner quit racing it a long time ago and started adding back in the interior carpets, door panels, power windows, stuff like that. So, it's actually a nice, comfortable car to drive on the track."

Although he mostly participates in HPDE events, in 2022 he had an opportunity to participate in a 24 Hours of Lemons race. He was one of three drivers, racing his friend's 1984 944. He explains that this was his "first time actually racing wheel to wheel" and he loved it. Besides a few minor electrical issues in rainy weather with the wiper motor, the radiator fans, and the brake light switch, which required some rewiring under the dash before going back out on track, the car held up great.

With a goal to finish the race, the car came in 10th in its class, and 32nd overall. Out of a total of 110 cars, approx. 50+ cars were unable to finish the race.

Having spent years participating in HPDE events, he has watched the paddock evolve. Track days are now filled with increasingly powerful, technology-packed cars. Yet, arriving in a 1980s transaxle Porsche still turns heads.

Once the session begins Elliott feels: "The best part is when I go out on the track and actually show what it's capable of."

A 944 is all about the driver's ability to keep up through the corners, although it is unable to compete with modern high-end cars on the straightaways.

He explains that people approach him to ask about the upgrades on the car, like engine swaps, a big turbo, or other performance modifications. They are often surprised that "it's all in the suspension, all in the handling." People get excited about seeing these cars on track and in the paddock, sharing stories, and driving alongside a 944.

WHEN PASSION BECAME A PROFESSION

Being part of that community of 944 enthusiasts is what, over time, developed into his business. After his early days at his family member's junkyard, he always worked at independent Porsche repair shops. Moving to the North Georgia mountains in 2017 and specializing in 944s, he realized that there were no shops in the area dedicated to servicing Porsches. He started his own business, 944Barn, in 2019, working on people's cars, and selling parts.

During the pandemic, many owners started working on long-delayed project cars which created an unexpected surge in demand for parts. Through forums, Facebook groups, and word of mouth, he became known as "the parts guy". All of a sudden, he was busy shipping parts daily.

Financed by the sales in 2020 through 2022, he was able to build his shop, the 944Barn in 2023. Rather than continuing to work on customers' cars, Elliott shifted his focus to purchasing 944s, salvaging parts from cars beyond repair while restoring others to sell to new owners who could enjoy them.

MORE THAN JUST CARS

Traditional advertising has never been part of his approach. "I'm super grateful that I don't have to advertise my business," he said. "It all comes through word of mouth and recommendations through the car community".

While he credits the community for his success, those relationships didn't happen overnight. They were built over years of showing up, sharing knowledge, helping fellow enthusiasts, and earning trust through one interaction at a time.

The first time Elliott attended a small meet up of six 944 owners was in Central Florida in 2004/2005. To keep the community connected and the events continuing, he began organizing 944 meet ups of his own through online forums. These meet ups gradually turned into an annual event.

Another event that many enthusiasts are familiar with is the 944Fest, one of the largest gatherings dedicated to Porsche transaxle models.



"That's the one where you really get to see the 944 community all come to one place," he said. "You get to meet people that you've known online for years. That's one of the fun things about it—connecting with people that you've chatted with online, or, in my case, I've sold parts to them and now I get to meet them in person, which is awesome."

CHOOSING JUST ONE

He has hosted several car groups and clubs at 944Barn, and YouTubers have featured tours of his ever-growing collection.

With nearly 400 cars passing through his hands over the years, and about 60 currently on the property, I couldn't resist asking the inevitable question:

If you could keep just one, which would it be?

(It's a bit like asking someone to pick their favorite child.)

As it turns out, the answer isn't so simple. His favorite 944 changes from week to week, depending on what he's doing.

"Choosing one car right now, that could do it all— a solid track car, a comfortable daily driver, a car that looks good, that's a rare spec, something that's different than just a normal 944—there is not one car that checks all of those boxes," he explained.

If he had to choose the car that he is currently the most proud of, however, the answer becomes a little easier.

"Recently, the car that gives me the most pride and joy would have to be the purple 968. Being a 944 guy for so long, it was many years until I got a 968."

Like nearly every other car on the property, this comes with a story. He bought it as a black 968 in rough shape. While he was getting the hood repainted at a shop, someone broke in, crashed a pickup truck through the garage door, and damaged the car. The shop offered to repaint the parts that were damaged, but Elliott decided to embrace the opportunity to transform it into something entirely unique instead of having it restored to its original appearance.

More than any other car in his collection, it reflects his personality and style the best.

THE REWARD IS IN THE JOURNEY

Whether it's supplying a hard-to-find part, being part of community events, or working on a project that will turn into someone's first track car, one thing became very clear talking to Elliott: he's passionate about seeing these cars and the community around them continue to thrive.

Two decades after finding his first wrecked 944 sitting in a junkyard, he doesn't pretend that owning them is effortless:

"They are old cars at this stage. Even a really nice one that's been well kept is still going to have issues of some kind. Parts age, no matter how low the miles are. Rubber will deteriorate; fluids go bad. So even if the car is in perfect working condition, you might be driving it someday, and all of a sudden, you lose clutch pressure, or a coolant hose bursts. You have to expect those kinds of little problems to just suddenly emerge, because that will happen. But that's part of the experience; that is part of the challenge and the joy of owning an older car. Modern cars are awesome. They're comfortable. They're fast. Technology is worlds ahead of these old things, but there's a certain kind of soul that older cars have, that you can't quite get with newer cars, especially when you start to work on the car yourself: I'm fixing this old thing. I'm going to keep it alive or bring it back to life".

Elliott's advice: "Go and drive the car, reap the rewards of fixing it."

EVERY ENTHUSIAST HAS AN ORIGIN STORY. SOMETIMES, ALL IT TAKES IS ONE OVERLOOKED 944 TO BEGIN WRITING IT.



Full story behind the purple 968 and the transformation:
[Panorama August 2024 / Issue Number: 809](#)

Updated & Online Now!



PCA History Book

Updated for 2026, the Porsche Club of America History Book is online now. Inside, you'll find a comprehensive look at the club's journey, detailed sections on key milestones, a showcase of events, and prominent National Awards, complete with descriptions and past winners.

Read the updated book here: <https://ww2.pca.org/pca-history>



PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

PORSCHE
SPRINT TROPHY
PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA
BY YOKOHAMA



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/>



PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA



Monterey Pines Golf Course, 1250 Garden Road, Monterey, CA 93940 | August 14, 2026



Join us at Werks Reunion Monterey 2026!

Immerse yourself in both the Porsche cars and the people that make this marque so special

The popular Porsche show, Werks Reunion, is headed back to Monterey, CA on August 14, 2026, showcasing a breathtaking array of Porsches that are sure to excite Porsche enthusiasts! Porsche Club of America welcomes all Porsche clubs, owners, and enthusiasts, to join us for our 12th Werks Reunion Monterey. Expect to view spectacular Porsches, from rare classics to current models and everything in between. This year, we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the introduction of the 924 in 1976, as well as the series of transaxle Porsches, which will be the feature cars for Werks Reunion 2026.



More information: <https://www.werksreunion.com/monterey.cfm>



PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA



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journeys through England, Ireland, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and France—balancing legendary cities and rugged coastlines with refined comfort at sea. Demand is high—reserve your preferred stateroom now to secure the best cabin selection for this exceptional British Isles experience.



More information: pca.princesspartnerships.com/pcacruise/pca-treffen-at-sea-2027



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BECOME A PEACHSTATE VOLUNTEER

WANT TO BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL?

Peachstate PCA is successful only through the great work of its many volunteers, like you!

Have a passion or skill to share your volunteer spirit? Our club has opportunities for you to really make a difference for your fellow club members. Whether you prefer showcasing your creativity through publication arts and skills, bringing people together, leadership, hosting events or just diving-in-to-help with anything, here's your chance.

Scroll through our "About Us" and "Activities" menus on the Peachstate PCA Website <https://peachstatepca.org>, then follow the link by scanning the QR code and tell us about your skills and passions to support your role(s) of interest. Our team will review every submission and work hard to match requests with club needs.

Not quite sure yet? Still have some questions or just want to know more about the Club and opportunities? We're here for you. You can email one of our Board Members from our website: peachstatepca.org or go to "About Us" and "Our Team." Tell us your preferred contact info: return email or cell number for a personalized conversation are both welcome!

REGISTER HERE:



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- Your host, Karl Boegner, has been a Peachstate Region PCA member for over 50 years.
- Open Thursday through Sunday 11:00 until 5:00.



UP TO SPEED - WELCOME TO PEACHSTATE PCA

MICHAEL BALK MD



WHAT DREW YOU TO THE PORSCHE BRAND?

"I have been a Porsche fanatic for decades and have owned a 912, a 1971 911e, a G50 Targa, a 356, a 997.1 Turbo, a first-year Boxster, first-year Macan, and still have my 356."

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO MOST WITH PEACHSTATE PCA?

"What I would like to get out of PCA is maybe some more technical workshop. I do all my own work. And to learn more tricks and things that aren't always written down in service books, and also to meet some new people."

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PORSCHE-RELATED MEMORY?

"I've been a part of Peachstate PCA for years, and my favorite Porsche related memories are the friends I have met. When I bought my 912, I purchased it from the original owner in Washington state—it was sepia brown with a linen interior. I joined the 912 bulletin board and met a Turkish fella named Timur. Through Tim, I became friends with about 10 to 15 other like-minded crazy Porsche people, and we all go to Werk's, Amelia, and other events together. So, my favorite memory is more about the people I have met through my Porsche connection, that all started with a "play date" with a guy I met Online"

MICHAEL BALK MD



Be Our Next Featured Member!

We're always excited to welcome new faces to the Peachstate PCA community. If you'd like to be introduced in an upcoming issue, simply answer the questions from the **Up To Speed** feature in an email to presse@peachstatepca.org, and don't forget to include a favorite photo of you and your car!

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5% Off Parts and Labor for PCA Members!








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If a picture is worth a 1,000 words . . . here's two of them!



speedFilm

Contact Peachstate PCA member David Dearing ■ Phone: 678-249-7165 ■ david@speedfilm.net

DRIVING TOURS

STORY: STEVEN PERA / PHOTOS: CHRISTOPHER FLAUGH, DOUGLAS GIBBS, LISA MCCLURG, SAM MOSLEY, SUE MOSLEY



COACHWORK & COWBOYS NORTH GEORGIA TOUR

A PHOTO-ESSAY

The Peachstate Region Tours Program welcomed 17 cars and 26 participants to a very special event coordinated by Mike Thies.

The day began in Smyrna, Georgia, where participants gathered to sign-in before enjoying a tour of the Ron Green Collection. From Ford vs. Ferrari race cars to classics and racing machinery, the collection offered something fabulous to see at every turn.

After a brief meeting covering the day's route and safety reminders, participants were split into two driving groups and set off for the first leg of the tour. The route wound through the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park before weaving through suburbia toward Woodstock, Georgia, where John Gibson hosted the club and presented his amazing collection of cars at his home.

Leaving Woodstock behind, the roads eventually became more scenic as we made our way toward Cartersville and our final stop, the Booth Museum of Western Art. Many participants took advantage of a private tour led by our docent, Joel, who also works as a docent at the Savoy Automobile Museum.



Photo by Lisa McClurg
at Ron Green's Car Collection

Special thanks to Ron Green and John Gibson for opening their collections to the club. Thank you also to Mike Thies, Sam and Sue Mosley and Mark and Lisa McClurg for serving as leads and sweeps, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all.



Photo by Sam Mosley
at John Gibson's Collection



Photo by Christopher Flaugh
at Ron Green's Car Collection with Ron and Mike



Photo by Christopher Flaugh
at Ron Green's Car Collection



Photos by Douglas Dibbs
at Ron Green's Car Collection



Photo by Sue Mosley
at Booth Museum



FREED

P E R F O R M A N C E

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DRIVING TOURS

STORY & PHOTOS: LISA MCCLURG



BARNSLEY GARDENS TOUR

BLUE SKIES AND BRIGHT SUNSHINE SET THE TONE

We began our June 6 drive at the beautiful Barnsley Gardens Resort in Adairsville, Georgia. Blue skies and bright sunshine set the tone for a perfect day on the road, a fact confirmed by the number of convertibles traveling with their tops down.

Our route led us into the mountains toward Lookout Mountain, winding through the charming small towns of Summerville, Menlo, Piney Grove, and New Salem. Along the way, we briefly crossed into Alabama, gaining an unexpected "extra" hour thanks to the time change and making excellent progress. Once we entered Tennessee, however, we returned to our original schedule.

The drive unfolded in three distinct sections, each offering the perfect balance of sweeping curves to keep the driver engaged and beautiful scenery to entertain the navigator.

As with any memorable road trip, there were a few unexpected moments. We slowed and briefly detoured around an 18-wheeler parked along the roadside, dodged around enthusiastic locals standing in the roadway advertising "Free Food," and those of us in Group 4 were treated to an amusing encounter with a Tennessee-plated

minivan carrying a bicycle rack. The driver had been content to trail just behind our sweeper, but the moment the highway widened to include a passing lane, he didn't hesitate to fly right by the entire group. Apparently, we were holding this driver up on his errand.

Our journey concluded on Choo Choo Avenue in Chattanooga, where we enjoyed a satisfying lunch at Nic & Norman's—the perfect ending to a beautiful day of scenic driving.



FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Firsthand perspectives and quotes from members who participated

BRIAN NEWSOME

"I participated in the Barnsley Gardens to Chattanooga - Lookout Mountain Driving Tour yesterday and had a fantastic time! The planned route was one of the most beautiful drives I've taken through the north Georgia mountains with great weather and once we arrived in Tennessee, the view from Lookout Mountain was amazing. The tour was very well coordinated, and the driving route itself was fun and enabled participants to exercise their cars a bit with some great turns and switchbacks. I appreciate all the effort that goes into these events on behalf of the PCA Peachstate team."

TRAVIS ALLEN

"As a non-Porsche owner and driver, the group did not make me feel like an outsider. Funny staff, great ambiance and wonderful choice for a drive. Thank you for a good experience."

SCOTT WICKER

"The tour was excellent. Steve and Michel did a superb job, and all went off without a hitch. Barnsley Gardens was a wonderful place to start as I had not been there before, so it gave me a chance to see the place. All the roads we drove were fun and the scenery was awesome. I had not been up on Lookout Mountain before, so I thought that part of the drive was spectacular! All the participants were very nice; our lunch restaurant was very good as well in a cool part of Chattanooga. Thanks to everyone involved for a job well done and fun had by all."

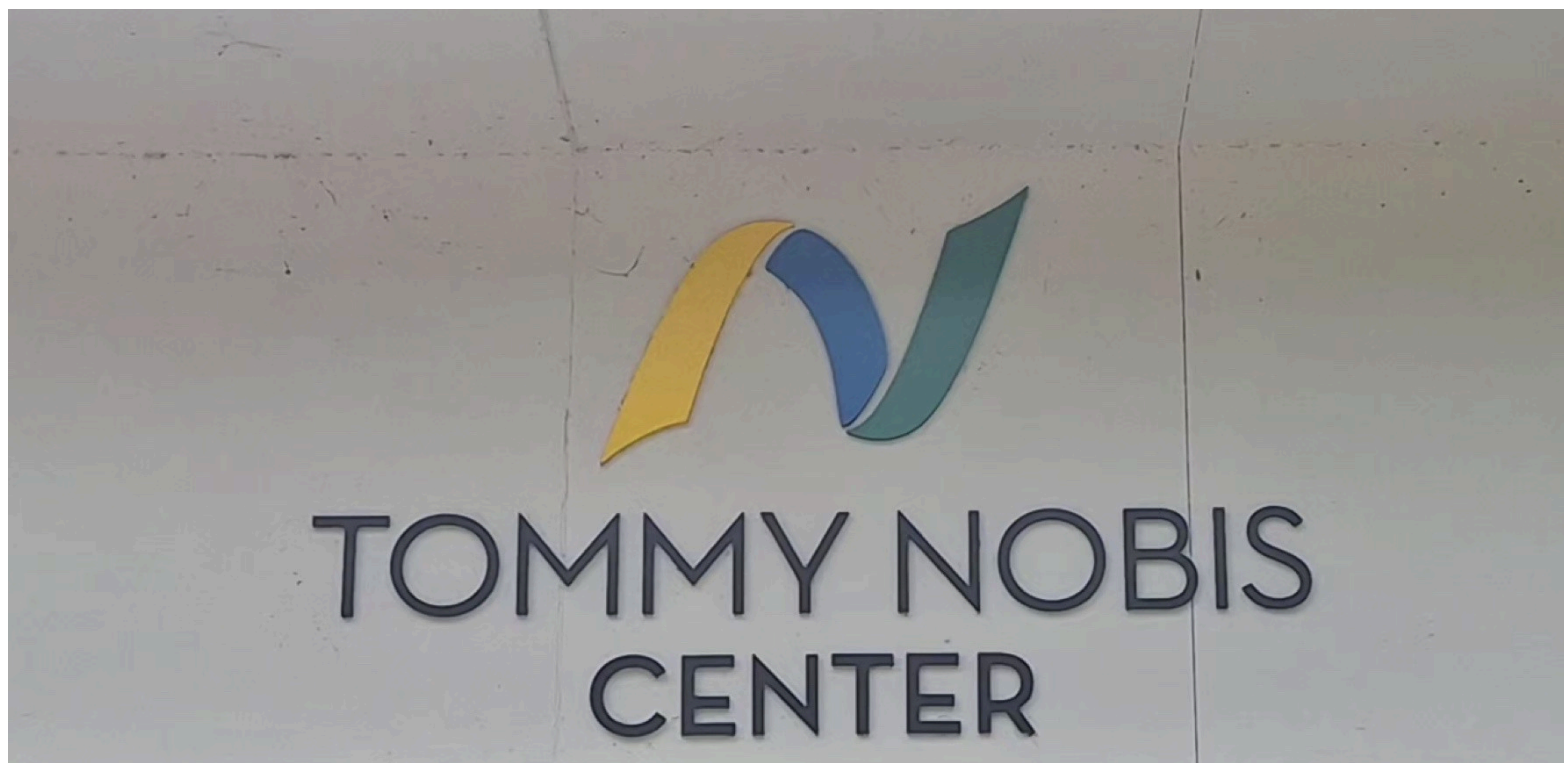
DMTD 2026

 Jan 27-28 SEBRING Before PCA	 Aug 10-11 VIR 25 Car
 Feb 23-24 SEBRING + Night	 Aug 26-27 INDY 25 Car
 Mar 18-19 VIR Before PCA	 Aug 29-30 INDY 25 Car
 Apr 08-09 ATLANTA Before PCA	 Sep 02-03 ROAD AM Before PCA
 Jun 01-02 WATKINS 25 Car	 Sep 22-23 ATLANTA 25 Car
 Jun 03-04 WATKINS 25 Car	 Sep 24-25 ATLANTA 25 Car
 Jul 20-21 ROAD AM 25 Car	 Dec 14-15 DAYTONA 25 Car
 Aug 03-04 ROAD AM 25 Car	

Register at davidmurry.com

HEART OF PEACHSTATE

STORY: PENNY GILDERSLEEVE / PHOTOS: PENNY GILDERSLEEVE, TOMMY NOBIS CENTER



BEYOND THE DONATION

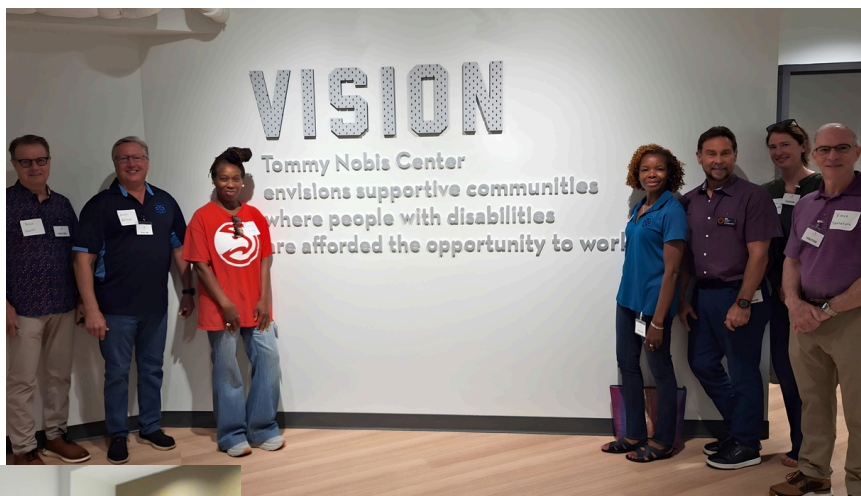
A NEW CHAPTER IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Peachstate Region Porsche Club of America (PCA) has supported [Tommy Nobis Center](#) as a charitable partner via financial contributions.

This year marked the first time PCA members volunteered onsite, creating a new hands-on dimension to the relationship. Volunteers participated in student engagement activities, sharing career experiences, workplace skills, educational pathways, and professional advice with students in the EYES and Academy programs.

Through the “Spark the Lightbulb” sessions, members helped inspire young people with disabilities to explore future career opportunities.

The experience left a lasting impact on students by building confidence and career awareness, while PCA members gained rewarding and meaningful opportunities to connect, mentor, and give back to the community.



Explore our charitable mission and the organizations we support at <https://peachstatepca.org/about/charities>.

RALLY

STORY: GARY SAMOLUK / PHOTOS: WILKO HEINRICHSDORFF



“DIE FRÜHLINGSBLUMEN” RALLY SPRING, SMILES, AND TIGHT COMPETITION

Spring arrived in full bloom for this year's Die Frühlingsblumen Rally (Spring Blossoms Rally). On a picture-perfect Sunday, eleven rally teams gathered under sunny skies to challenge themselves on some of North Georgia's most scenic and winding backroads. Blooming trees, rolling hills, and quiet country roads provided the perfect backdrop for a day of precision driving, navigation, and friendly competition.

Both the Seat-of-the-Pants (SOP) and Tour classes enjoyed exceptionally close competition, with many rally legs decided by only a matter of seconds. As always, the Rally Master managed to throw in a few surprises to keep everyone honest.

One of the day's memorable moments came when both the Baker and Houston teams fell victim to the same clever trap. While searching for a "bear right" opportunity, both were lured into a right-turn lane that ultimately cost them valuable points—a reminder that in rallying, every word (and every lane) matters!

When the dust settled, **Michael and Alysun Laskowski** once again demonstrated why they're among the club's best,

capturing **first place in the SOP class** with an outstanding score of **229 points**.

The **Tour class** was spared from the infamous "bear right" trap by being provided with the road name for each turn, but that didn't make victory any easier. **Wilko Heinrichsdorff and Mike Wilson** drove a consistently excellent rally to claim **first place** with **149 points**. Close behind were **Phil and Grant Myers**, finishing second with **174 points**.

Every rally also has its "character-building" award. This year's **Dead Ass Last (DAL)** honors went to **David and Richard Burton**, whose adventurous journey earned them a memorable **996 points**. As every seasoned rallyist knows, sometimes the best stories come from the biggest scores! The day's festivities concluded in downtown **Canton** at **Reformation Brewery**, where competitors gathered to relive missed turns, celebrate great drives, and enjoy authentic German pretzels (*thank you Wilko*), cold beer, and plenty of good-natured storytelling.

By the end of the afternoon, any disappointment from a missed checkpoint had long since been replaced with laughter and plans for the next rally.

Congratulations to all twelve teams for making the **Die Frühlingsblumen Rally** another outstanding day of Porsche driving, camaraderie, and friendly competition. Here's to beautiful roads, blooming springtime, and many more miles together!

A very special thank you goes to our **official rally sponsor, Kaya Vineyards & Winery**, whose continued support helped make this year's **Die Frühlingsblumen Rally** another outstanding success. Nestled in the foothills of the North Georgia mountains, Kaya has long been known for its award-winning wines, breathtaking vineyard views, and warm hospitality. Their commitment to supporting PCA events and the local car enthusiast community is sincerely appreciated. Partnerships like theirs help make events such as the Die Frühlingsblumen Rally possible, allowing us to continue creating memorable experiences built around great roads, great cars, and even greater friendships.



We encourage everyone to visit Kaya Vineyards & Winery, enjoy a relaxing afternoon overlooking the vineyards, sample their exceptional wines, and experience firsthand one of North Georgia's premier wineries. We are proud to have Kaya as part of our rally family and look forward to continuing this partnership for many rallies to come.

Thank you, Kaya Vineyards & Winery, for helping make the 2026 Die Frühlingsblumen Rally bloom into another unforgettable event! 🍷 🏁

Place	SOP Rally Team	Score
1	Michael & Alysun Laskowski	224
	Jack & Kathy Baker	-
	Gary & Tia Houston	-

Place	Tour Rally Team	Score
1	Wilko Henrichsdorf & Mike Wilson	149
2	Phil & Grant Myers	174
3	Doug & Pam Dichting	187
4	David & Elizabeth Carroll	189
5	Jaco & Belinda Zeevart	233
6	Marc & Emily Smernoff	426
7	Chris & Zach Freiburg	565
DAL	David & Richard Burton	996



Check out our Calendar at <https://www.peachstatepca.org/calendar>, our [Facebook Page](#), [Instagram](#) or the Presse Weekly e-blast emails for the latest schedule and full details - and be sure to come out and see us!

LEARNING FROM THE EXPERTS

The Tech Committee is off to a strong start, with three events completed and two more already underway.

TRANSAXLE MODELS HOSTED BY MERLIN AUTOMOTIVE

Our first session focused on transaxle models, with an emphasis on high-mileage maintenance. This marked the first dedicated program for this generation of Porsche vehicles at Peachstate in many years. Hosted by Merlin Automotive, the event featured an in-depth discussion of common service needs and long-term ownership considerations. Attendance was approximately 30 participants—an ideal size for meaningful technical exchange and open dialogue.

DIY MAINTENANCE HOSTED BY MOTO ESCAPE

The second event focused on water-cooled 911 models and practical do-it-yourself maintenance. Key topics included oil changes, brake service, spark plug replacement, and routine inspection items. Moto Escape hosted the session at its new vehicle storage facility in Chamblee, with approximately 30 attendees participating.

DAMPER DESIGN & SUSPENSION TUNING HOSTED BY MOTION CONTROL SUSPENSION

Our third event featured Motion Control Suspension (MCS) and focused on advanced damper design and suspension tuning. The MCS team explained how modern damper engineering can be tailored to a wide range of driving environments, from daily street use to HPDE events and full-track competition. Attendees learned how proper suspension setup can improve balance, responsiveness, and driver confidence while reducing the compromises often found in factory or poorly tuned systems.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The next event on the calendar will focus on collision repair, hosted by Mundy's Collision Repair in Lawrenceville.

The Tech Committee continues to welcome ideas for future sessions. Current topics under consideration include oil analysis and interpreting results, tire selection, and an in-depth exploration of air-cooled Porsche models.

Members are encouraged to share suggestions as we continue building a practical, ownership-focused program.



Check out our Calendar at <https://www.peachstatepca.org/calendar>, our [Facebook Page](#), [Instagram](#) or the Presse Weekly e-blast emails for the latest schedule and full details - and be sure to come out and see us!

TRACK

STORY: MIKE WILSON / PHOTOS: WILKO HEINRICHS DORFF



JUNE HPDE AT MICHELIN RACEWAY ROAD ATLANTA

We hope you were able to join us, whether as a participant or spectator, for our HPDE at Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta on June 27–28. A total of 121 drivers from across the country made the trip for an outstanding weekend on the track. The paddock showcased an impressive variety of cars, from a Volkswagen Golf R to a Porsche 911 GT3 RS. Despite the wide range of horsepower and experience levels, everyone shared the track safely, respectfully, and with the camaraderie that makes our HPDE events so enjoyable.

The weekend began with beautiful morning weather, but the pleasant temperatures quickly gave way to blistering afternoon heat that tested both drivers and machines. To help everyone stay hydrated, members of the Track Committee greeted drivers at the end of each session with cold bottles of water, a simple gesture that was greatly appreciated throughout the weekend.

After the track went cold at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, participants gathered for our evening social. Southwestern-inspired appetizers and refreshing beverages, including cold beer, provided the perfect opportunity to cool off, relax, and catch up with friends. After spending the day in the summer heat, for many, the gathering was one of the highlights of the weekend.

Sunday's lunchtime Charity Laps once again drew a great

crowd. For just a \$20 donation per car, participants could fill every available seat and enjoy four to five laps on the legendary Road Atlanta in a lead-follow format at highway speeds. It was a fun way to experience the track while helping support a worthy cause.

By Sunday afternoon, it was time to pack up and begin the trip home. Once the track went cold at 5:00 p.m., the Track Committee loaded the last of our equipment. Before wrapping up, volunteers took part in our traditional golf cart race. One team travels the track clockwise while the other heads counterclockwise, collecting cones along the way. The first team back to the starting grid earns bragging rights until the next HPDE.

Now it's time to look ahead to our final and most popular track event of the season, **Oktoberfest HPDE**, which will take place October 9–11, 2026. Oktoberfest offers three full days of track time for solo drivers and two days for students. We'll also gather for our traditional Oktoberfest celebration in the Podium Club at the Michelin Tower after the track goes cold on Saturday.

Registration is now open at [ClubRegistration.net](https://www.clubregistration.net). We hope you'll join us for another fantastic weekend at Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta.

SEE YOU AT THE TRACK!

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The Peachstate PRESSE gratefully accepts advertising from businesses interested in reaching a wide audience of Porsche enthusiasts. Advertising rates are as follows:

Full-Page Ad (7-1/2" x 10" or 8-3/4" x 11-1/4" w/bleed):	\$ 1,450
Half-Page Ad (7-1/2"W x 5"H):	\$ 750
Quarter-Page Ad (3-3/4"W x 5"H):	\$ 450

The rates shown are for a full year, comprising four quarterly issues and based on advertisers providing camera ready artwork or acceptable digital files. Rates will be pro-rated for partial years and subject to increase if more than four issues per year are published. Normally, the invoices for renewal are sent in November and confirmation must be received no later than December 15 to be included in the January issue. No response will be accepted as a decline for renewal of you ad. All advertising fees must be paid in full before the first ad insertion and are non-refundable. Credit or debit card payments are not accepted. Ads submitted should be high resolution (300ppi minimum) digital files such as PDF, TIF and JPG, or as suitable scannable delivered artwork, not PSD, DOC or PAGE files.

The Peachstate PRESSE Editor has the capability of creating your ad for you at an agreed upon fee and the advertiser will be billed separately for this service. For questions on the ad specifications, or to place an advertisement, please contact:

Sabrina Heinrichsdorff
Presse Editor
presse@peachstatepca.org

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