

PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA • SUNCOAST

**PORSCHE**

# Profile

MARCH/APRIL 2025

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**PORSCHE**

# PORSCHE Profile

MARCH/APRIL 2025 ISSUE 25.2

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Jimmy Carter @ Sebring



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The Hanger & Flight Lounge



## CONTRIBUTORS:

David Witty, Pedro Bonillo, Norm Sippel, Andrew McCartney, Connie Rhodes, Tim McGaughey



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Graphic Designer. . . . .	Laura Sayegh
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Photo of the Month . . .	Ralph Porzio

PCA Zone 12 Rep . . . . . Leslie Sikorski

To contact any of our Board or Committee members, please use the "Contact Us" form on our website, [www.suncoastpca.org](http://www.suncoastpca.org)



## Dear Members,

As we approach the end of another exciting year for our Porsche Club, I want to take a moment to reflect on its current health, review its financial position, highlight recent activities, and recognize the contributions that have kept it thriving.

### Club Health and Financial Status

I'm pleased to report that our club remains in excellent shape regarding membership growth and finances. Our membership numbers have steadily increased, welcoming new enthusiasts in the form of New Members, Transfers, and Test Drive Members. Financially, we are on solid ground, thanks to successful events and the diligent work of our Club Treasurer, Jim Farmer. While overall incoming dollars have softened due to decreased revenues from the 48-hour event, our budget management and magnifying glass on expenditures are balancing accordingly. This strong position allows us to continue organizing events, maintaining club assets, and planning for an exciting year.

### Activities and Events

Over the past year, we've hosted various memorable events, including 9 Drivers Education events, a TRSS School at Sebring, the best Autocross gatherings in Florida, and many social gatherings. Our recent Holiday Gala was tremendously successful, with a fantastic turnout and generous donations.

We have a packed calendar of events planned for next year. From more scenic drives to track driving events and new social gatherings, there's something for everyone. We encourage all new and seasoned members to get involved and participate in the club's wide range of activities.

### Board Member Additions and Notable Contributions

I'd like to welcome our newest board members who have joined to help steer the club's future:

- Jon James – Board Member -At Large
- Tim McGaughey – IT Security and special projects
- Richard Summers – Public Relations
- Bailey-James Schommer – Website
- Connie Rhodes – Social Director
- Ryan Edison – Special Projects and Social Media
- Russ "Doc" Hostetler – Rally Master

Their passion and dedication to our club have already made an impact, and we look forward to seeing the exciting developments they will help bring in the coming year.

A special thank you goes to the generous donors who supported our Holiday Gala. Without your contributions, many of our initiatives would not have been possible. We want to acknowledge our Holiday Gala for their outstanding contributions especially.

- Porche of Clearwater
- Motorsport Guru's
- Munyan Painting
- AutoQuest Motorsports
- European Performance

I would also like to acknowledge our **new Social Director, Connie Rhodes**, for filling the vital role. Connie's efforts with the holiday gala and every event she has meticulously worked on have been a blessing. Look for the Porches and Polo event in Sarasota, as it will be a sellout!!

### Call for Board Nominations

As we plan for the upcoming year, we seek nominations for our next Board of Directors. If you or someone you know would like to contribute to shaping the future of our club, we encourage you to step forward. Your involvement in the club's leadership is vital to its ongoing success. Nominations will be open until July 1st, and elections will be held later. 2026 will be seeing an all-new Executive Council, meaning we will seek nominations for the roles of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Please send any nominations via email to [president@suncoastpca.org](mailto:president@suncoastpca.org).

Thank you all for making this year such a success. We have built a strong, vibrant, and welcoming Porsche community. Here's to even more outstanding achievements in the year to come. ■

Sincerely,  
Joe Shukys, President, Suncoast Region of PCA

# Autocross 2025 Season

by Jerry & Kirsten Eggert

Hello, Suncoast Region PCA members and fellow autocrossers. Since our last edition, we held our first event of 2025 on Sunday, January 19th, at the St Petersburg College Allstate Center. Although the weather forecast called for cool weather and rain showers for most of the day, we had a great turnout of 47 drivers! The rain held off until our lunch break, but that left the course a bit slick, so no one had a chance to improve their times during the afternoon runs. It was fun as always, and just like Drivers Education, rain really makes you work on your technique for smooth driving! Cory Corona with Arnage Motorsports sponsored our morning coffee and donuts, and he finally had an opportunity to join us for a full day of autocross after a few years of being too busy running a new motorsport performance shop in our area.

Overall run times were between 31 and 40 seconds, with the win going to a PCA member but driving a C8 Z06. Alex H had the Fastest Time of the Day with a 31.281 sec run. 2nd place went to a BMWCCA member, Andrew S, in his powerful M2 at 31.287 secs. Bill S made the podium for Porsche in his 2013 Boxster S and came in 3rd overall with a 31.638.

We also had a great turnout of ladies! Ten women joined us in competitive driving for the January event. We want to encourage more ladies and rookies to join us to experience the great handling of your Porsche in a safe and fun environment.

The second event of 2025 was held at the Venice Airport Festival Grounds on Sunday, February 9th. We had a beautiful, warm, sunny day, and we appreciate everyone working in the hot sun for over an hour for each session at your workstations. The Festival Grounds incorporates the old WWII airstrip and access roads, so we are able to design a much longer course. This longer course is a lot of fun while driving, but it is a long work session when it's your turn to work. So, thank you all for staying until the end to ensure we have enough station workers to maintain a safe event – especially leading up to the Super Bowl that evening!

We had 41 drivers for the February event, which was an excellent turnout for Super Bowl Sunday. Bill S in the 2013 Boxster S took FTD with a rapid 43.948 sec run! The airport has a nice straightaway section

that allows for some good speed – but you have to put on the brakes to prepare for a tight slalom at the end of the straight and a hairpin turnaround for the finish. David L, the 2024 overall champ, came in 2nd with a 44.211 in his 2017 Cayman S. And yours truly, Suncoast Region Autocross Chairpersons, came in 3rd and 4th overall – Kirsten with a 44.263 and Jerry with a 44.461. In his 2011 Cayman S, Tracy S rounded out the top 5 with a 44.510.

We are excited to pick up a new venue at Lead Foot City in Brooksville. We will host the first two events on February 23rd and March 23rd. We should be able to accommodate 50-60 drivers at this venue, so we expect

many more PCA members to join us – no excuses for northern Tampa Bay members!! Also on the schedule are March 9th - SPC Allstate; April 6th - Venice; June 1st - SPC Allstate. Events are filling up fast, so sign up early at [Clubregistration.net](http://Clubregistration.net). Remember that guests/spectators must also pre-register via [Clubregistration.net](http://Clubregistration.net), and Lead Foot City has its registration requirements. Details are listed in each event registration. Please continue to check our website for the 2025 schedule and results at <https://suncoastpca.org/autocross/>

If you have any questions, please email us at [autocross@suncoastpca.org](mailto:autocross@suncoastpca.org) ■





**MONTHLY**

**Breakfast with Porsches . . . . Venice – 3rd Saturday of each month at Skillet’s in Village Shoppes Jacaranda & US 41 - 4115 South Tamiami Trail South, Venice. We meet at 8:30am. Host, Norm Sippel , [nsippel@mindspring.com](mailto:nsippel@mindspring.com)**

**Bradenton – 1st Saturday of each month at, Skillet’s on Rt. 64 east of I-75, 9722 FL 64. We meet at 8:30am. Host, Renae Fjugstad, [renae.fjugstad@gmail.com](mailto:renae.fjugstad@gmail.com)**

**Palm Harbor - 3rd Saturday at Clear Sky Club Haus at 36355 East Lake Road, North end of Ridgemoor Shopping Center. We meet at 9am. Have friends with Porsche who are not PCA members? Bring them along. Host, Bill Schultz, [bschultz@reiengineers.com](mailto:bschultz@reiengineers.com)**

**St. Petersburg - 4th Saturday of the Month (NEW VENUE) at The Hanger Restaurant & Flight Lounge. 8:00AM Fellowship, 8:30AM Breakfast. Registration at [www.clubregistration.net](http://www.clubregistration.net)**

**Lunch with Porsches . . . . . 3rd Wednesday of the month at Quaker Steak & Lube, 10400 49th St. N, Clearwater, FL 33762. We meet at noon on Wednesday (pre-registration is not required.)**

**4th Wednesday of the month (NEW VENUE) at Ford’s Garage 295 North Cattlemens Road, Unit 1, Sarasota. We meet at 11:30AM. Registration at [www.clubregistration.net](http://www.clubregistration.net)**

**Dinner with Porsches . . . . . 4th Wednesday of the Month (NEW VENUE) at Pee-Pa’s Garage 6PM – 6340 49th Street North, Pinellas Park, FL. Registration at [www.clubregistration.net](http://www.clubregistration.net)**

**FUTURE EVENTS . . . . . Registration at: [www.ClubRegistration.net](http://www.ClubRegistration.net)**

**March 8 . . . . . Northern Suncoast Gimmick Rally – 14457 North Dale Mabry, Tampa – 9AM, parking lot behind**

**March 23. . . . . Lets Take A Back Roads Tour to Sunday Brunch – Meet at San Antonio City Park, 9:30AM**

**April 13 . . . . . Suncoast Region Porsches & Polo – Sarasota Polo Club 8201 Polo Club Lane, Lakewood Ranch 10AM -2PM**

*N.B.: Check our website [SuncoastPCA.org](http://SuncoastPCA.org) for the most up-to-date schedule of events and sign-up information for all events. All of the Suncoast PCA events above require that you register at: [www.clubregistration.net](http://www.clubregistration.net) unless otherwise noted.*

**Suncoast 2024 AutoX Events**

Watch [www.clubregistration.net](http://www.clubregistration.net) for more 2025 dates

- March 9 – Allstate St. Pete College
- March 23 Lead Foot City Brooksville
- April 6 – Venice Airport
- June 1 – Allstate St. Pete College

**Suncoast 2024 DE Events**

All at Sebring International Raceway

- March 28, 29, 30
- June 21, 22
- October 17,18, 19
- April 26, 27
- July 19, 20
- November 21, 22, 23 (Instructor Driver Weekend)
- May 10 & 11
- September 13, 14

Questions? Contact Debbie Spee at [DERegistrar@SuncoastPCA.org](mailto:DERegistrar@SuncoastPCA.org)

**2024 Board Meeting Schedule**

Members are welcome to attend. If you would like to be part of a Zoom call, please contact one of the officers for instructions. Second Tuesday of each month, except January and July. All will be via Zoom until further notice.

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David & Barbara F. Carbone

Alton & Dana A. Cates

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Daniel & Sharron Shields

Kenneth & Rob Tozier

Robert Yaeger

Brian & Stephanie Hanson

Gary & Selena Holmes

Jay & Elaine E. Nicks

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George & Pamela Bleasdale

Dale Harris & Eileen Town

Richard & Diane Hendricks

Mark & Kathy Rogers

Roger Wojahn

## 15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Warren Lucier

Jeff Bell & Lisa Morehouse

Tod Byram

Gary & Joseph Kaminski

Russell Swope & Heather Broadbent

## 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Keith Bass

Jeff Sherman

Benjamin Torres & Purine Stromgviest

Robert Goen & Maria Anderson

Denis & Rene Griesmer

Michael & Anne Hassett

Markus & Karl Mittermayr

Sigfus B Sverrisson

Richard Hearn

Michael Zimmermann

Mick & Tina Jernigan

Jim & Pat Mueller

## 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Sean Drake

Cody Williams

Dean & Cindy Roussel

RichardnConnolly

James Taylor

Kevin & Erin McKoon

Steve Pistono

Michael & Reuben Gottlieb

Thomas Weisman

George Adley

GabrielnPrieto & Maritza Telleria

DJ & Jana Sebestyen

Karl Hayward

RichardbSlone

Joe McMahan

Gail Patsy Finn

Amanda & Brandon Tress

Peter Arren

Michaeln& Elizabeth Brown

George & Hurley

## SEPTEMBER 2024 Welcome our newest members:

Kevin	Aikman	Sarasota	2022	911 Carrera
Mariano	Alvarez	St. Petersburg	2020	Cayenne
Bruno	Amassan	Venice	2022	911 Carrera
Andrew	Barber	Palm Harbor	2014	911 Turbo Cab
James	Benson II	Gull Lake	2013	911 Carrera Cab
Paul	Biarsky	Lakeland	2020	Macan
Mike	Bills	Clearwater	2012	911 Carrera S
Joanne	Boles	Tampa	2021	Cayenne
Marlene	Brake	Bradenton	2017	718 Boxster
Sean	Brynjelsen	Sarasota	2025	911 Carrera
Cari	Calderoni	Tampa	2017	718 Cayman
Norman	Cianfarani	Bradenton	2017	718 Boxster
John	Cordas	Palm Harbor	2012	Cayman S
Denis	Danan	Apollo Beach	2023	Macan
Robert	Davidson	Clearwater	2020	911 Carrera 4S
Philip & Ann	Dolson	St. Petersburg	2024	Macan
Douglas	Duncan	Saint Petersburg	2000	911 Carrera Cab
Stephen	Gausepohl	St Pete Beach	2012	Cayman R
Dan	Gawrych	St Petersburg	2016	911 GT3 RS
Melody	Gliksman	Valrico	2018	911 Turbo S
John	Henry	Tampa	2025	Panamera 4
Gerald	Jackson	Tampa	2015	Cayenne S
Jonathan	James	Temple Terrace	2001	911 Turbo
Johnny	Johnson	Gulfport	2020	911 Carrera SCab
David	Kahle	New Port Richey	2018	911 Carrera S
Glenn	Kaplan	Englewood	2020	911 Carrera 4SCab
Robert	Kaupp	Wimauma	2021	718 Spyder
Douglas	Kole	Seminole	2013	Boxster
David	Kozlowski	Tampa	2025	911 GT3 RS
John	Maddox	Clearwater	2021	Taycan 4S
Jeff	Maier	Venice	2013	Panamera GTS
Al	Maiorano	Safety Harbor	2024	911 GT3 Touring
Matthew	Mefferd	Saint Petersburg	2024	718 Boxster S
Jonathan	Moore	Sarasota	2019	911 Targa 4CTS
Chuck & Linda	Moseley	Venice	2023	718 Cayman GT4
Dexter	Nann	Venice	2005	911 Carrera Cab
Jonathon & Michael	Noll	Wesley Chapel	2007	Cayman
Alex	Pratt	Belleair Beach	2019	911 GT3 RS
John & Zachary	Rigg	Davenport	2024	Macan
Jorge & Matthew	Rodriguez	Tampa	2025	911 GT3 RS
Ronald	Rybolt	Largo	2015	Cayenne Diesel
Michael	Scharnow	Tampa	2021	911 Carrera S
Brian	Shanberg	Tampa	2024	Taycan
Bill	Slack	Palm Harbor	2024	911 Carrera
Jeffery Southland &	Cindy Drapcho	Indian Harbour Beach	2016	Cayman GT4
Derrick	Stoudemire	Clearwater	2021	Taycan 4S
Ravi	Talati	Tampa	2017	911 Targa 4
Kenny	Tassoulas	Lakewood Ranch	2025	911 Carrera Cab
Baran	Tokdemir	Tampa	2024	718 Cayman
Chris	Toro	Tampa	2005	Boxster S
Alex	Vargas	Apollo Beach	2024	911 Carrera T
Ryan	Wagoner	Lutz	2015	911 Turbo Cab
Brock	Welty	Tampa	1999	911 Carrera
Joel	Wilner	Englewood	2024	Macan

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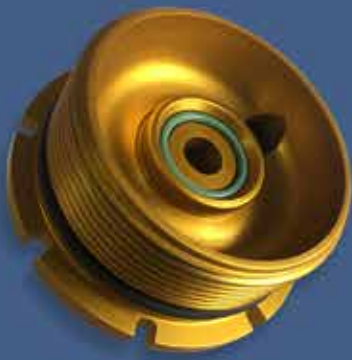


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# From the Editor's Desk

Where do I begin with this month's issue of Suncoast Profile? There are so many noteworthy moments in the Porsche world and our PCA community that deserve recognition.

First and foremost, let's celebrate Porsche's remarkable achievement at the 24 Hours of Daytona. For the second consecutive year, under the expert leadership of Roger Penske, Porsche secured a first-place victory, further solidifying its dominance in endurance racing. The dedication, strategy, and performance displayed by the team were nothing short of spectacular.

Closer to home, our very own Suncoast and Goldcoast PCA regions successfully hosted 48 Hours at Sebring, the most significant single-marque motorsport event in the United States. This event is a true testament to the power of community, with a dedicated volunteer force working tirelessly to manage the crowd and ensure everything runs smoothly. The precision and passion behind this event have kept it a well-oiled machine for years, and its continued success is something we should all take pride in.

On a different note, I was pleasantly surprised to learn about former U.S. President Jimmy Carter's admiration for Porsche. A true motorsport enthusiast at heart, he had a deep appreciation for the engineering and performance of these remarkable machines. A special thanks to Norm Sippel and Road & Track for sharing an insightful story about Carter's connection to the Porsche legacy.

Reflecting on our club activities, I've observed that our engagement goes beyond traditional car events. Of course, we still enjoy our staple activities like Autocross and Driver Education (DE) days at Sebring Raceway, but we're also branching out and exploring new experiences. This season, our members have the opportunity to enjoy a new Autocross venue in Brooksville, a scenic back-road tour through central Florida, a Polo event in April, and even an Axe Throwing DYPN (Date Your Porsche

Night) at a local brewery. Adding to the excitement, we have discovered a new gathering spot for early morning meet-ups with a picturesque airport backdrop.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributes photos and stories to Profile; your engagement is what keeps this publication alive and thriving. This issue features a particularly touching story highlighting a father-son bond through their shared passion for Porsche, as well as an in-depth interview with one of our dedicated members.

Looking ahead, be sure to mark your calendars. Early registration for the PCA Parade in Oklahoma City is now open, and

the 12 Hours of Sebring is just around the corner. These are events you won't want to miss.

As always, I encourage you to share your stories, experiences, and photos with us. Let's continue celebrating our love for Porsche and the community that makes this club so special. Feel free to send your submissions to Profile@suncoastpca.org for consideration in our next issue.

Until next time— Carry On, ■

*George*



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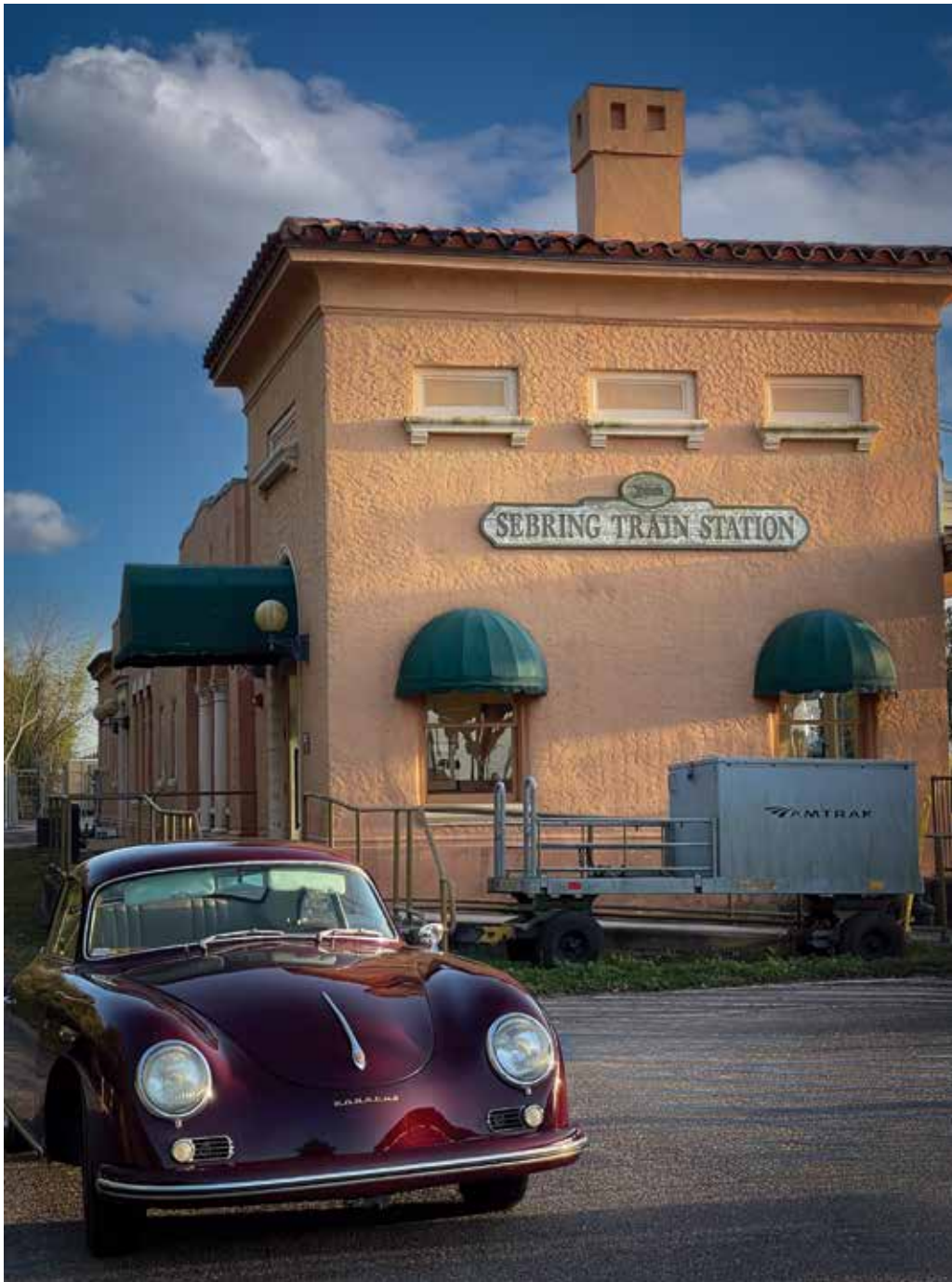
# Sebring History



Richard Denham is the owner and photographer of this beautiful 1958 356A Porsche. He cleverly combined three historical elements into one beautiful image. He explains the shot:

“Here is my 1958 356A at the Sebring, FL old train station. I was in Sebring for weekend of SVR racing when I took this photo. I recently purchased the car and this was its first road trip for me. The Station has recently been renovated and is quite striking and the name Sebring will always be associated with Porsche. I used a Cannon EOS 5D MKIII and a Cannon Zoom lens EF 24-105.”

Congratulations to the POM! Keep your pictures coming. ■





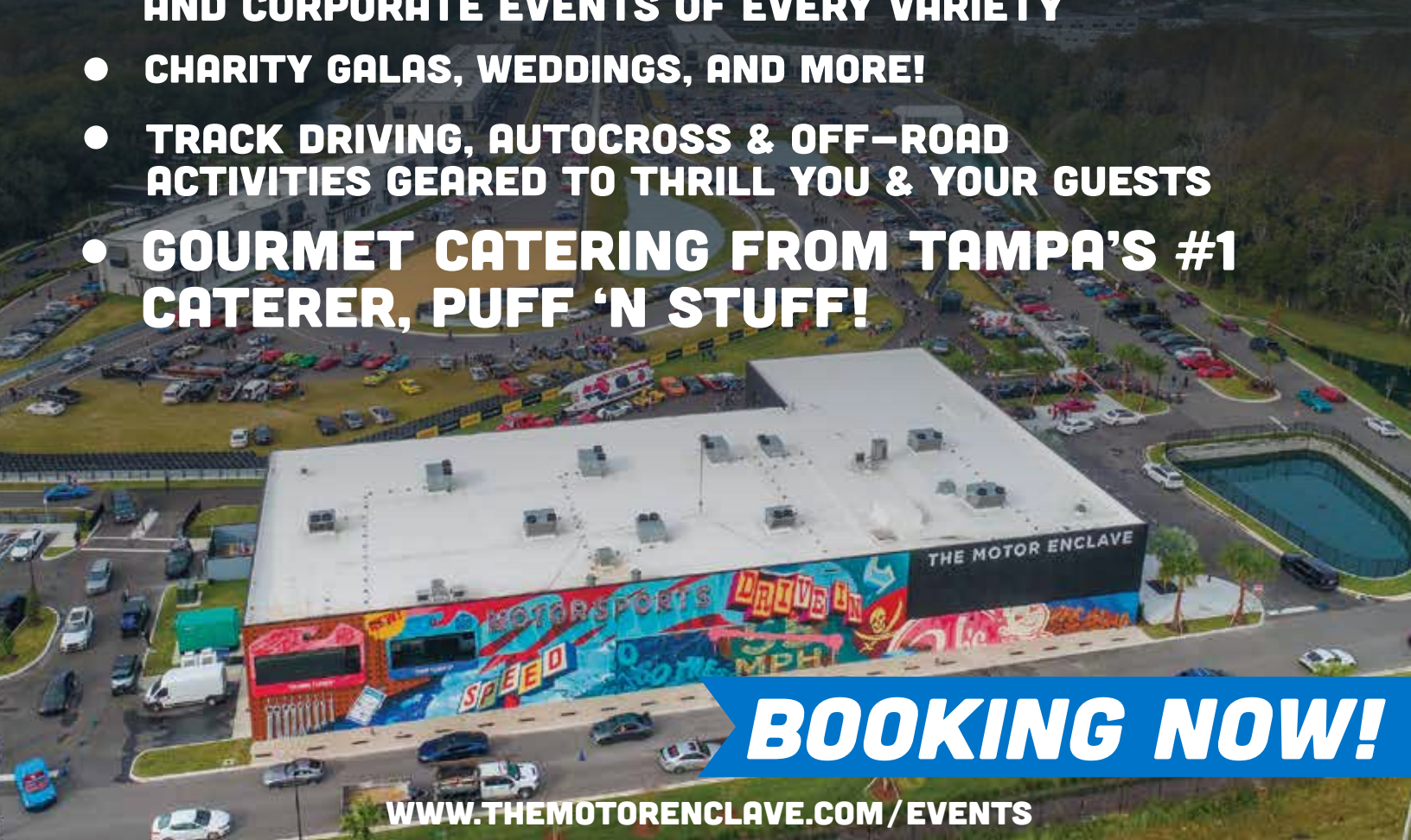
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# He Wanted a Porsche

by Norm Sippel

## A President REMEMBERS SEBRING

Jimmy Carter at the races

BY RAY DETOURNAY • ILLUSTRATION BY DENNIS BROWN

IF YOU HAPPENED TO BE A SPORTS-CAR FAN roaming the dusty infield at the Sebring racetrack almost 50 years ago or so, you might have come across a lanky fellow with a friendly, open grin, hanging out with his pretty, dark-haired wife and three kids. If you made the effort to talk to him over the constant din of Ferraris, Maseratis, Jags and MGs, you might have discovered that he was a former Naval officer, now a peanut farmer in south Georgia, interested in racing cars and having a great time. And if he stuck out his hand and said, "I'm Jimmy Carter, this is my wife Rosalynn and these are our three boys," it probably wouldn't have meant much...then. Just another young family enjoying the latest fad of auto racing...the Sebring 12-Hour Grand Prix.

"Well, we had gotten hooked originally on stock cars but that was just dirt-track racing back around 1950 or so," says former President Carter, in recalling his interest in cars and racing. "I was still in the Navy then. We came home to Plains in 1953 and we took racing magazines and kept up with who was racing and who won. At that time we had our second car, which was a Plymouth station wagon. Our first car was a 1948 Studebaker Commander. It was a great car.

"We went down in 1954 or '55 for our first Sebring race. Drove down in our station wagon with our little boys. It was a really exciting thing for us. We would save our money and the only thing it cost was just gasoline there and back because we didn't stay in any accommodations. We slept in the back of our station wagon or in a tent. We would cook hotdogs and hamburgers. The main thing was how much my wife and my little boys enjoyed it."



126 ROAD & TRACK

Did you know that our late President Jimmy Carter was a "Car Guy"? Me neither.

Growing up in Plains, Georgia he was a fan of dirt track racing. Later, after his service in the U.S. Navy, he began reading about sportscars in magazines like Road & Track. That's when his interest turned to Sportscar racing so much so that he even took the time to come on down and check the action at Sebring. He made trips to Sebring for the Florida International Twelve Hour Grand Prix of Endurance in the 1950's and early 1960's. He even brought Rosalynn and his boys with him. The two of them often tried to recognize the cars by their sound. (Remember that 33rpm vinyl, "Sounds of Sebring"?)

While Porsche 550's were racing in those years, they didn't finish well until 1960. Was he there for that race? I haven't found anything to confirm that. However it was quite likely. That edition of the Sebring International Twelve Hours of Endurance was won by the Porsche 718 RS60 driven by Herrmann and Gendebien.

President Jimmy Carter developed a love of Porsches. It doesn't appear he ever owned one. But, in a Road & Track article by Ray DeTournay published in May 2002, he said, "If I hadn't gone into politics and if I had gotten rich, I would have gotten a Porsche. *I always wanted a Porsche.*" My, how times have changed. Just not the love of Porsches. ■

In March of 1959 Jimmy Carter made one more trip to Sebring but this time in the company of three buddies from his hometown of Plains. They drove a 1958 Chevrolet 2-door sedan equipped with the very latest suspension technology—the

"air-ride" suspension that had a suspension based on cylinders in which air was pumped, and it was supposed to remain at a constant pressure and give you a very soft ride. It was the first time I probably the only time they had air-ride. It was just great. You could go across a bump and crossing at pretty good speed and you wouldn't even feel it. You just glide and it was beautiful when it worked. On our 1958 car, the cylinders sprung a leak and we were riding on the axle."

Allen would not have been a bump, all right drive they arrived at Sebring...early enough, apparently, to worm their way into a choice camping spot.

"We parked the car not more than a hundred yards from the start and finish line, in some trees. Nobody made us leave, so we just camped there. We took a tent with us in which we spent the night and we cooked outside. Drank beer and so forth like men would do."

They made an attempt to put the best face on the accommodations by christening the tent "Hotel Sebring" and when medicine came around they referred to it as "dinner on the grounds." Actually a defined "it" could better describe the dining arrangements. For these guys from the heart of stock-car country, the race itself was much different from dirt-track competition. It was a mixture of amateur and professional. A 12-hour grind of constant whining engines, gritty dust, oil smoke and hot sun. Most unusual was the start.

"It was a Le Mans start. They would run across the racetrack, which was probably 10 yards wide, and then they would get in the cars and some wouldn't start at first. They would crank and crank and crank and they would have to push them off. They didn't have a regular pit like in stock-car races then, but we had access to everything as long as you didn't cross the track. I remember when the first Chevrolet Corvettes would run the big six engine. They sounded like a John Deere tractor coming down."

"We didn't watch the whole thing. We would wander around. We would buy soft drinks and visit all the strange and interesting antique cars that people assembling there. You could talk to the people that were sponsoring and go to the different booths and buy souvenirs or baseball caps with your favorite driver on it or pictures of the automobiles."

It was during these meanderings that the future president had his first encounter with a relatively new—but now venerable—way of taking the race home with

you. "The Sounds of Sebring" LP did, when the LPs came out...and it would have on the record the different sounds of kind of recognize a difference between a Ferrari and a Maserati and a Porsche and so forth. It really was a wonderful event."

Just for the record, the '59 Sebring 12-hour race was won by Phil Hill, Olivier Gendebien, Dan Gurney and Chuck Daigh in a Ferrari 250TR.

The 33 1/2-rpm turntable has long ago been put aside as Jimmy Carter moved on to greater things including the governorship of Georgia and then the presidency of the United States. For four years in the late '70s he had a unique selection of government vehicles from which to choose, including the White House limo, a Marine helicopter and *Air Force One*. Did being the 39th President of the United States have any effect on his interest in automobiles?

"We don't own a car. We have not owned a car since we went to the White House. In fact, my office is now where my garage used to be. We have a Chevrolet Suburban and that's what we travel in most of the time. We have a Ford van that the Secret Service uses when Rosalynn and I go on a long trip. It's a standard van with two reclining seats in it and then a seat in the back. When we come into the airport in Atlanta late at night and drive home, we can recline the seat back and take a nap, but no custom features. The Secret Service leases these cars. They don't buy them."

The big question, since he has lifetime security and concierge services, is whether he ever has the opportunity to operate a motorized vehicle on his own.

"When my children get a new automobile or something, I generally drive it, and on occasion I drive a pickup over to the farm and back so I know how to drive. By the way, I still do have a driver's license."

That license doesn't get much use...even as an ID. One of the perks of a past president is that he leaves the driving to his contingent of the Secret Service. Not that he has much time for pleasure driving anyway. As founder and chairman of the donor-supported Carter Center in Atlanta, he and Mrs. Carter travel the globe in everything from jets to jeeps in their efforts to promote peace, fight disease and build hope for less fortunate people in the world. In light of last year's tragic events, their mission seems even more important now.

Even though Jimmy Carter's mind is focused on the problems of the world, old dreams still die hard. He didn't hesitate to reveal the car he'd most wanted to own.

"If I hadn't gone into politics and if I had gotten rich, I would have gotten a Porsche. I always wanted a Porsche."



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## Suncoast PCA DE at Sebring

by Debbie Spee

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Questions? Contact Debbie at [DERegistrar@SuncoastPCA.org](mailto:DERegistrar@SuncoastPCA.org)

We look forward to seeing you at Sebring in 2025!

Your Suncoast PCA DE Team:

Brad Beckett, DE Director and CTI ([CTI@SuncoastPCA.org](mailto:CTI@SuncoastPCA.org))

Debbie Spee, DE Registrar ([DERegistrar@SuncoastPCA.org](mailto:DERegistrar@SuncoastPCA.org))

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Bill Schultz, Safety Director ([Safety@SuncoastPCA.org](mailto:Safety@SuncoastPCA.org))

*Good morning George,*

Apologies for sending this a bit late. I have been working nonstop since the PCA swap show! I hope I'm not too late sending you this story, but I wanted to send it anyway. To start, the car itself. It's a 2007 Cayman S in Cobalt Blue metallic with black leather and a 6-speed manual. My family, growing up, always had station wagons, but my grandfather was

a Porsche guy, having owned a 1978 gray market 930 with upgraded turbos, an early 1997 Boxster, and a 955 Cayenne S later on. My Dad had always said he wanted a Porsche himself, but I had assumed that might be closer to when he retires.

In 2007, I was in my first year of college in Boston, and I came back home for the weekend when my Dad said he would be in the city for work and could pick me up.

When walking back out to the parking lot, the sun had set, and in the middle of this parking lot, I saw a blue Cayman S under a street lamp and told my Dad, "Look, it's your dream car!" He had always said he loved Cobalt and wanted a Cayman S, so his ideal spec car sat there! I went up to take a look and was commenting on it, just circling it to look it over. I peered into the window and saw it was a manual, at which point I noticed he was holding the key in the reflection of the glass. I turned around and proceeded to lose my mind! Our family had always had Volvo and Saab wagons; this was a complete departure from anything we had ever had in the garage. We got in, and he drove off as I just took it all in, grinning ear to ear. Shortly into the drive, he pulled over and told me I was driving home. August 31, 2007, my first



drive in the Cayman.

Over 17 years of ownership, I made many memories with the car, taking it to Porsche events road trips, and even leading some rallies I had organized up the coast of NH and into Maine. I always looked forward to visiting home and borrowing a car to drive around; it became part of the family. Fast forward to November 25, 2024, and I was getting back into Tampa from a red eye out of California for work; after landing at 6 am needed some rest for a few hours before getting up for the day, but I woke up around noon to someone banging on my door? As I'm getting presentable, I hear the banging again and go to the door, only to see my Dad standing there. I had no idea he was coming down from Maine and was beyond confused about why

he was there. But he said he came to visit for a few days while I was home from work and that he got a fantastic rental from the airport and insisted on showing me blindfolded. I'm dazed from my work trip and lack of sleep, but I was very interested to see what he got. I was wondering if he got a Porsche rental from National. He walks me down to the parking lot and tells me to take off the blindfold, and there it is... the Cayman S that our family affectionately nicknamed "Blue Thunder" (funny to us!).

After I stop laughing and ask why he drove 25 hours down from Maine for a visit, he stops and tells me he's giving it to me. After 17 years



Michael Keyser, Autosports Marketing, Ltd.

and nearly 160,000 miles, he wanted me to have it instead of being traded in, and now it's my turn to enjoy the Cayman! I had a 1996 Mercedes SL500 I drove daily at home for many years, but sadly lost it in hurricane Helene while I was out of town for work in Texas and didn't think I'd ever end up with something I'd bond with like that SL, but this has wildly surpassed that benchmark.

I look forward to many years of memories with this car and plan to keep it as long as possible. Newer Cayman generations have been made faster and more capable than the first generation, but nothing will compare to the memories and design of that first-gen 987 in Cobalt Blue. It's easy to get wrapped up in the stats or the price of a modern car, but when the performance figures become familiar, the vehicle is story remains.

Now it's time to find a 991.1 Targa or GTS for my Dad, as I've already received more than a few solemn texts from him saying, "I miss my Porsche..." ■

*Andrew McCartney*





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Hello Suncoast Porsche fans! Many of you have seen our ads in Panorama Magazine, but I wanted to reach out directly to this region and extend a personal invitation to join Carpokes! We offer a Porsche discussion forum that is very different from the typical online experience. It's a throw-back to the days when Porsche forums existed solely for the joy these cars bring, the camaraderie that surrounds them, and the helpful information that fellow enthusiasts can offer. Carpokes is a positive, family friendly place to discuss Porsches in a club-like environment. We don't have trolls, bullies, data mining, off-color back rooms, or other 'big media' dross -- just welcoming and knowledgeable Porsche enthusiasts! Our hope is to make Carpokes a go-to resource for the Suncoast Region. We have a number of region-specific sub-forums already and are thrilled to add the Suncoast region to our growing family. In this way, Carpokes can be an extension of your local club experience, while also providing connections and resources from all over the world. Please take a minute to join today. It's fast, free, and easy!

Hope to see you there! -Tom M (PCA Member since 1996)

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# Freeze Your Road Grime

by Pedro P. Bonilla GCR PCA

In this era of eco-friendliness where everyone wants to be green and help preserve and protect the planet, sometimes it seems that we can't.

I mean, how can you remove years and years of road grime on a Porsche's engine, tranny, and under carriage without using harsh chemicals such as degreasers, solvents, abrasives, acids, etc., etc.?

Well, I just ran into the coolest and most eco-friendliest way of doing this.

I went to visit a friend, who is the owner a local Porsche Shop in the area, and when I got there I saw something that made my heart skip a beat or two.

They had a Carrera GT (yes, the \$400,000 supercar from Porsche) on a lift and I could have sworn that they were sandblasting the \$20,000 CCCB (Carbon Ceramic Composite Brakes) rotors and calipers. I thought my friend had just lost it!

I quickly ran over to stop the madness, but as I got closer, I saw that what was coming out of the nozzle wasn't sand, but what looked like water vapor.

"Cool", I said to the owner, "using steam to clean the car?" "Nope", he said, "that's not steam, it's CO<sub>2</sub>" (carbon dioxide).



I was immediately intrigued and started asking questions:

"So, what is it and how does it work?", "How do you generate CO<sub>2</sub> under pressure?", "Will it peel off the caliper's paint?", "What other chemicals do you add to the CO<sub>2</sub> in order to clean?", and a bunch of other ones.

He stopped what he was doing and started to explain:

"This is called Cryo Detailing and we're the first ones in the South East to apply the technology to automotive use. It has a very powerful, specially designed air compressor to blast away oil, grease, and stuck-on grime using only CO<sub>2</sub>".



"It is safe on paint, soft rubber, decals, etc." and he then showed me how safe it was by blasting the beautiful, Carrera Silver, left fender on the Carrera GT with his nozzle. I carefully inspected it, and it was perfect!

"We do not add anything else. It's just pressurized air and CO<sub>2</sub>". "Come with me, let me show you what's inside the machine". I followed him and we went to a giant blue plastic bin which as he opened it I could see that it was full of what looked like steaming rice. It was obviously rice-like CO<sub>2</sub> pellets



As they were reloading the unit again with the pellets I took a handful (which almost burnt my hand from the intense cold) to photograph them, next to a penny to give you an idea of their size.



"The machine is fairly simple", he said, "it's a big air compressor which generates very dry, pressurized air, then uses the pressure and a venturi to add the CO<sub>2</sub> pellets to the stream of compressed air through a hose. Before it reaches the end, we install the correct size-for-the-task mesh and nozzle for the particular job we're doing".

"So, depending on the air pressure, on the dry-ice particle size and on the nozzle's diameter and length we can do such delicate work as clean the white thread's stitching on a leather seat or we can strip off paint."

"Why dry ice?" I asked.

He answered: "The cold temperature, which can be brought down to 111 F below zero basically deep-freezes the grime which is then blasted away by the air pressure and the small dry ice pellets. That's why there's no residue other than the dirt we've just removed."

"So did you guys invent this or what?"

"No", he said, "this technology is actually used by Porsche and its dealers in Germany, as a standard service. We're just the first in the area to offer this service."

When I got back to my office I went online to check and I found this on Porsche's European Website:



Continued on page 23

# The Hanger & Flight Lounge

by Connie Rhodes



Sunrise at Albert Whitted Airport

I've been a member of the Suncoast Region of the PCA on and off for over twelve years. I may be wrong, but I don't recall having a Breakfast Social in St. Petersburg. We've had them every month at the Skillet's in Venice and Bradenton and at the Clear Sky Club Haus in Palm Harbor for years, but nothing in St. Pete.

I've always loved The Hangar Restaurant. We had our daughter's rehearsal dinner there two years ago. I took my dad for a helicopter ride for his birthday, along with dinner, at The Hangar. The food is always tasty, and where else can you eat a meal while watching helicopters and airplanes take off and land?

Charlie MacRossie suggested we start having a Breakfast Social there. I loved the idea, and we made the arrangements. A new breakfast tradition began. We had a good turn-out of twenty people. That's a nice amount for our first run. Everyone had a great time socializing and getting to know new and different members.

The Breakfast Social began at 8:00AM, which was a bit too early for some people. For the next meeting, we've decided to have fellowship at 8:00AM in the SE parking lot, and sit down for breakfast at 8:30.

We will NOT be having a Breakfast Social at The Hangar in February due to the Grand Prix already being set up, and the restaurant being closed for a few weeks. However, our next meeting will be March 22, 2025. Again, meet at 8:00AM, and begin breakfast at 8:30. Please register on Club Registration so we can get an accurate headcount. ■



Early Breakfast at the Hanger Restaurant with Suncoast Porsche





But, the skeptic that I am I said: “well, this is nice and dandy on a concour-ready Carrera GT, but does it really work on old, baked-in crud as that on my 14 year-old, 214,000 mile Boxster? ;) )

He said, “bring it in tomorrow and I’ll show you.”

The next day I was there bright and early with my old girl.

First I took a couple of “before” pictures to have something to compare. Now, you be the judge:



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After

But maybe what impressed me the most was how delicately the Cryo Detail takes off the grime but leaves the part completely undisturbed.

Take a look at this aluminum suspension part which was scribed at the factory. You can see how well it cleaned, yet you can still see that the original aluminum surface was not altered (sandblasted) in any way.

This is really interesting technology, in particular for engine builders, car restorers and councour d’legance enthusiasts or just anyone who wants their Porsche as clean as possible, even in places that no one ever sees. And the best part – it’s eco-friendly!

To learn more about Cryo Detail and more, please visit my website at:

[www.PedrosGarage.com](http://www.PedrosGarage.com). ■

Happy Porsche-ing,  
Pedro

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## Autoquest

### Tim McGaughey:

Can you share with our readers and members about who you are and what inspired you to start this business and how has your vision evolved over time?

### Amy Riches:

I am absolutely a Porsche enthusiast and a somewhat accomplished driver now thanks to the teachings of my late husband Gavin Riches among many other track day DE instructors. I thank them for all of that knowledge every lap. I started out as a pediatric nurse, so I always joke that instead of taking care of human babies, I'm taking care of car babies. They're much the same: they come in making funny noises and can't tell us what's wrong and we have to figure it out and fix them - and the parents are always overprotective.

Gavin purchased a used car dealership and grew it into an import and exotic car dealer in Fort Myers. During the recession around 2009 that business was quite challenging. I stepped in to help when the general manager left to help their family business up North. We selfishly kept the business going because of our passion for track events, and it started to evolve into becoming more of a Porsche specific shop. We were already involved in Porsches primarily from his history in doing rallies and racing them. As the economy recovered and more people were going to track events, we started preparing cars, and we just naturally fell into that niche. It grew from our own passion that we wanted to share with others. I've never considered going back to nursing. I just absolutely love what I am doing!

### Tim:

What inspired your business to connect with the Porsche community, and how does your product or service cater to Porsche enthusiasts?

### Amy:

Rallying the Porsches and knowing their capabilities, we started working with some other companies to develop and test some products to take the amazing Porsche product and step it up a notch so to speak. All of our focus was on the cars' handling and aerodynamics to make it faster for rallying, and that translates to track use as well. We were inspired to develop and co-create a lot



of aftermarket products for these cars.

### Tim:

What are the key benefits that Porsche owners or fans can expect from your product or service?

### Amy:

The biggest thing I would say is confidence and performance. Whether it's from the modifications that make the car handle better on the road or the track which in turn instill confidence in the driver to allow them to become faster, or just the confidence gained from the work that we do on the cars.

With our technicians' extensive years of

experience and expertise, I have to give them full credit for the amazing job and attention that they give to these cars. You know, their standards are so high. They are very, very protective of these cars. They ensure that everything is looked at and thoroughly, gone through, or repaired and given back to the customer in tip-top condition. There is no question in the confidence that the car is gonna to perform as it should, whether it's normal driving or track driving.

*Continued on page 32*



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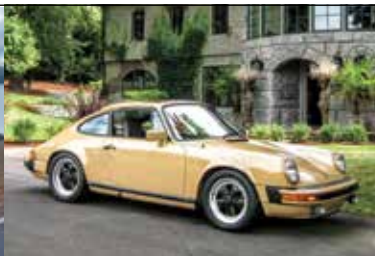
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# Have you signed up for PCA Juniors?

The PCA Juniors program is here for kids to enjoy PCA events, learn about Porsches, and continue the passion that runs throughout the Porsche Club of America. As a PCA member, you may sign up your child, grandchild, niece, or nephew under the age of 18. It's free to join! Your PCA Junior will receive a welcome box with an ID name badge in the mail. Many region events include activities for children and teens geared to grow enthusiasm for Porsche and PCA for generations to come.

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**Tim:**

How does your business reflect the values and heritage of the Porsche brand in your offerings?

**Amy:**

I mean obviously, the heritage of Porsche and their history of quality and performance are exactly what we strive to achieve with our cars. We want to continue that. There's not a thing wrong with the Porsches that are being produced, but it's always fun to tweak it. Just to give it just a little twist. You know there's nothing that gives us more satisfaction than when we see that grin on our customers face after we've done a little bit of work to the car they love and taken it to the next level.

**Tim:**

What future trends do you see impacting your business and how are you preparing for them?

**Amy:**

I think the biggest impact is the electrification of cars. If we're moving away from all of these petrol cars into electric cars and hybrids, that creates a big problem for an independent dealer like ourselves. A shop (like ours) does not have access or the capital to invest in what it takes to even work on an electric vehicle. The software and engineering that goes into electric cars is something that the dealership has very proprietary access to, which is understandable, but that sort of limitation I think is going to probably evolve us into what's known as a historic shop.

So yeah, we're gonna stick with these petrol cars and hopefully they'll be enough of them around for us to maintain our niche and passion for them.

**Tim:**

What role do Porsche events or motorsports play in your marketing or outreach efforts?

**Amy:**

The vast majority of our marketing is done through word of mouth. I like to engage with people and connect with customers at different motorsport events, and I do that all over the country. I attend track events in other Porsche regions and go to national Porsche events like Rennsport Reunion where I get a chance to really



present ourselves and some of the unique products that we have developed within the space that can help benefit Porsche owners involved in motorsport.

**Tim:**

What has been the most rewarding experience for your business in partnering with Porsche or engaging with its fan base?

**Amy:**

Nothing becomes more rewarding to me personally than to be at an event where a customer whose car we've prepared, watching them grow from a novice driver to an advanced driver, or someone new to us - we've done modifications to their car - they get out of their car after a session on track with a massive smile on their face and a gleam in their eye because they were driving so well and going so fast. They often thank us endlessly for the work done on the car.

That is probably the greatest reward I can ask for and then have a customer recommend us to someone else. I had a call from California the other day. He said "yeah I talked to so-and-so and they said this is absolutely the only person you need to talk to. You need to talk to Amy at AutoQuest." So I thought that it is pretty darn rewarding when someone across the country is getting referred to you because of your specific knowledge and in these products. ■

**Don't wait! See Profile sooner on our website at [www.suncoastpca.org](http://www.suncoastpca.org)**



The background of the entire page is a photograph of a race track pit lane. In the foreground on the right, the rear three-quarter view of a silver sports car is visible, showing its rear wheel, side mirror, and trunk. In the background on the left, an orange sports car with a roll-over protection structure is parked. The pit buildings are visible in the distance under a cloudy sky.

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# Festival's of Speed Vinoy Park 2025 Recap



550 Spyder by David Witty

For the 21st year, the Festival's of Speed returned to Vinoy Park on Sunday, February 16, 2025, showcasing a spectacular collection of 250+ exotic, classic, and rare automobiles. This annual event has become a highly anticipated gathering for car enthusiasts, and this year was no exception.

As a passionate Porsche fan, I eagerly look forward to this event each year, knowing I'll get to admire some of my favorite models. Porsche Clearwater once again provided a dedicated parking area for Suncoast PCA members, offering an exclusive display space. This year, one of our members even took home a trophy, adding to the excitement. The waterfront hospitality tent also made for a fantastic gathering spot, providing a comfortable place to enjoy the view and chat with fellow enthusiasts.

Photography at Festival's of Speed is always a highlight, with endless opportunities to capture the artistry and craftsmanship of these incredible machines. This year was particularly special as

I had the opportunity to shoot alongside David Witty, a highly regarded auto and boat sports photographer.

David has contributed to Suncoast Profile for many issues, and watching him work was both inspiring and educational.

The semi-overcast weather worked in our favor, creating the perfect lighting for photography.

The event layout was well-organized, allowing attendees to appreciate each car, motorcycle, and boat without feeling overcrowded. Whether you came for the classics, the exotics, or the sheer love of automobiles, there was something for everyone.

Looking back, Festival's of Speed 2025 was another fantastic experience, filled with breathtaking vehicles, great company, and unforgettable photo moments. Thanks to David Witty's expertise, I'm excited to return next year with an even sharper photographic eye.

Until then, I'll be counting down the days to Festival's of Speed 2026! ■



Scott & Connie Rhodes Ferdinand Porsche Trophy by David Witty





Ferdinand Porsche 356 Award Winner by David Witty



Spyder Time by George Wienhold



G- Body Beauty by David Witty



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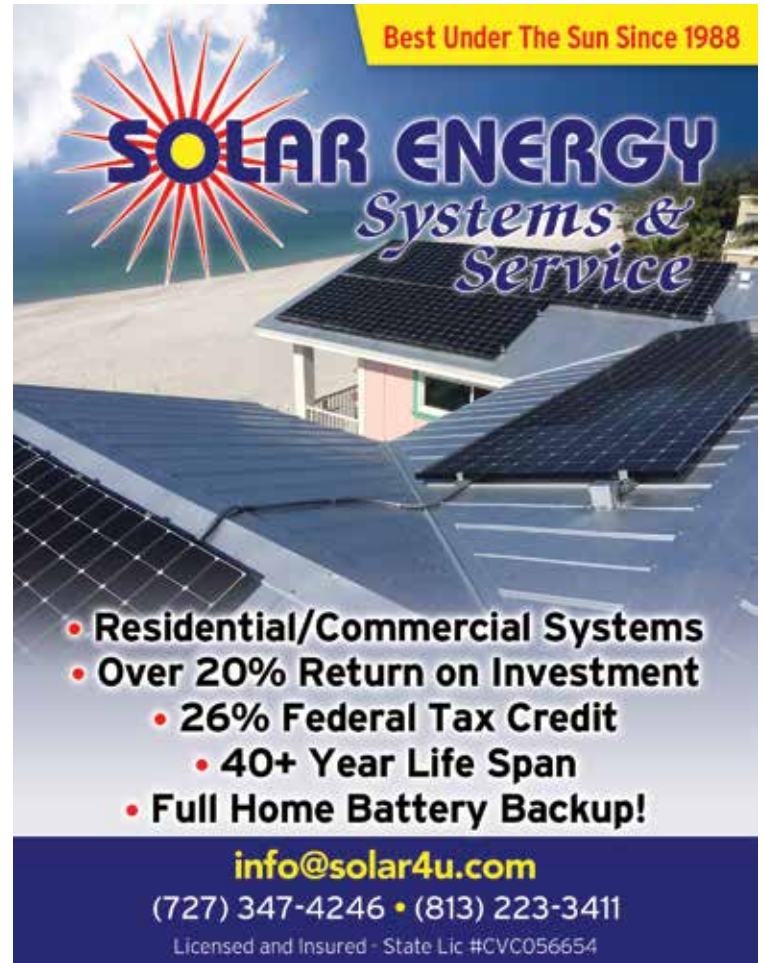
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# The 48 Hours at Sebring PCA Club Race

by George Wienhold



While most of the country is still defrosting from winter, Porsche Club of America (PCA) members kick off the 2025 club racing season in the only sensible way—by heading to sunny Sebring, Florida, where the only ice you'll find is in your cooler.

Preparation for this event technically began as soon as last season's checkered flag dropped. Teams spent months tweaking their Porsches, fine-tuning strategies, and deciphering the latest rule changes—all in the name of speed, glory, and a well-earned victory lap.

## The Real MVPs: PCA Volunteers

What really makes this event (and every PCA event, for that matter) so special? The people. PCA members don't just love Porsches—they love making sure the show runs smoother than a fresh set of Michelins on a dry track. Volunteers poured in by the dozens, donating their time, energy, and sheer enthusiasm to keep the race weekend on track (both literally and figuratively).

This year's event was orchestrated with the precision of a pit crew by the Suncoast and

Goldcoast PCA regions. Over four days and 48 volunteer-packed hours, they kept the gears turning, ensuring everything ran like a well-oiled flat-six engine.

## Race Day Vibes

I was only there for one day, but wow—Sebring was packed. The parking lot looked like a Porsche dealership threw a rave, with trailers lined up end-to-end and enthusiasts from nearly every state. The atmosphere?

*Continued on page 38*

Electric. The weather? Mostly cooperative. Sure, there was a little rain—it's Florida, after all. But nothing a good windshield wiper and some optimism couldn't handle.

### Want the Ultimate Experience? Volunteer!

As a PCA member, this event is free to attend, which is already a great deal. But if you really want the VIP experience, sign up to volunteer next year. You'll get up close to the action, meet fantastic people, and, most importantly, bask in the glory of high-speed Porsche racing.

Because let's be real—it's always sunny in Florida, especially in February.

See you at Sebring in 2026! ■







## PCA members make a difference in their community!

Porsche Club of America Regions create fantastic opportunities to give back and support many different aspects of their communities.

Every year across Porsche Club of America, members are making a difference with many amazing, heartwarming, and thoughtful acts of kindness. PCA is continually collecting stories of member's community contributions, and publishing articles for all to read in an effort to highlight what our club is doing and inspire other regions to help in their own way.

READ ALL OF THE HEART-WARMING MEMBER STORIES: [www.pca.org/members-making-difference](http://www.pca.org/members-making-difference)  
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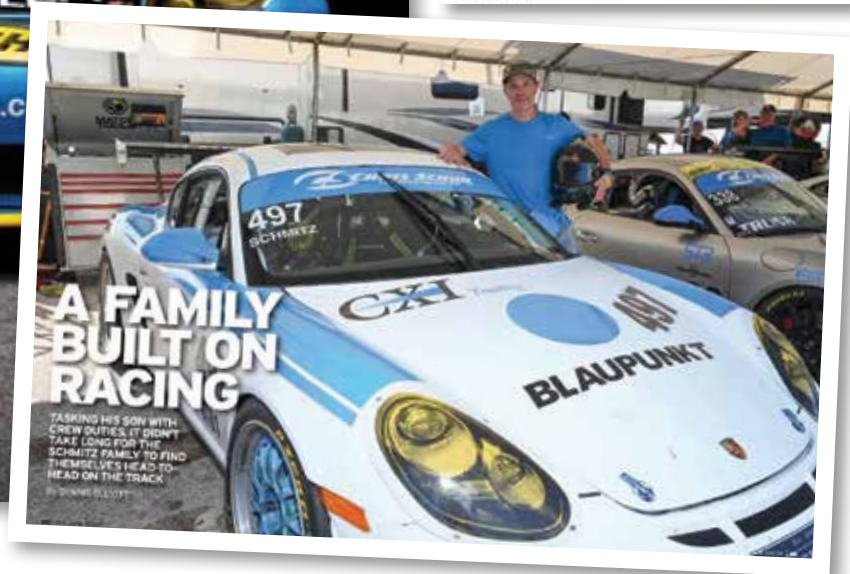
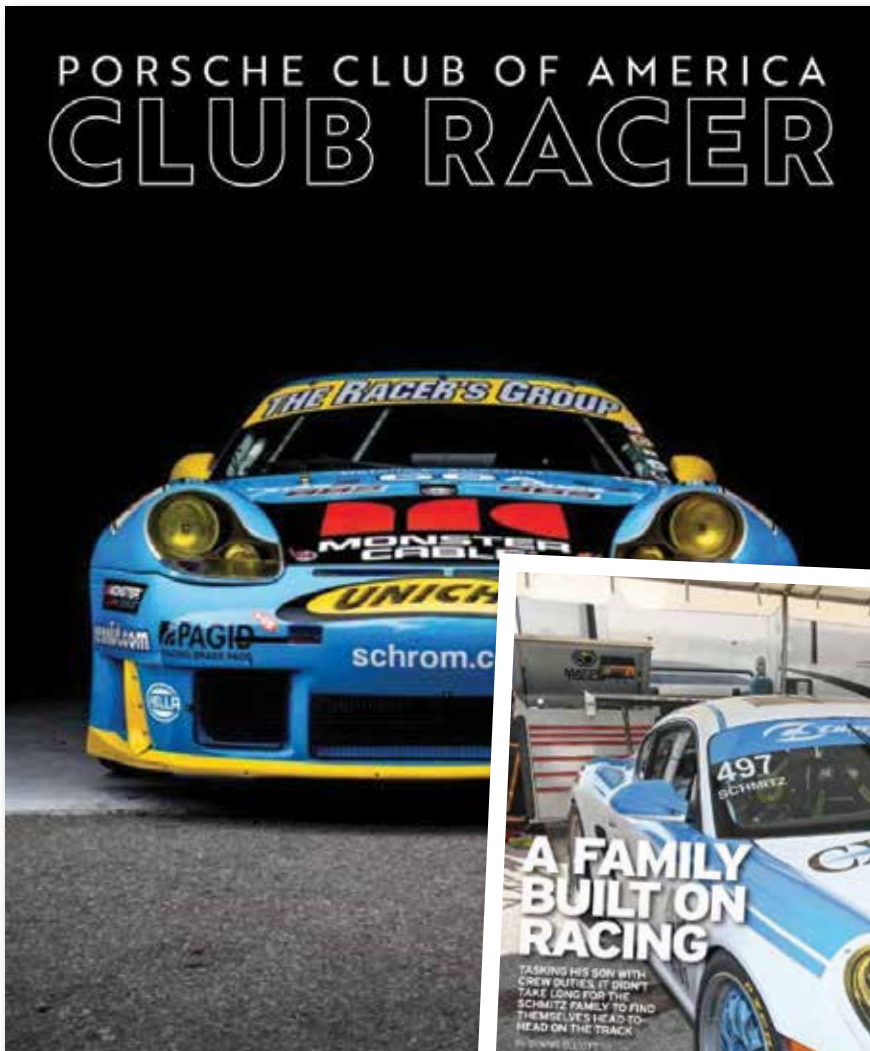
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Submit your photos to be judged by our Photo Editor, Ralph Porzio. He'll select one to be featured in Profile each issue. The photographer must be a Suncoast PCA member. The photo must be Porsche-oriented, but can be a glamor shot, action, artistic, whatever you want. Be creative. It can be of cars, people or places.

**Enter Now! The winner chosen each month will receive a Suncoast PCA Chino Cotton Cap!**



Submit to Ralph at [rporzio@verizon.net](mailto:rporzio@verizon.net) with "Profile Photo of the Month" as the Subject of your email. Images should be PDF or JPEG between 2 MB and 5 MB. Include your name, city, contact information and a few sentences about your photo. Photos must have been taken by the Suncoast member.



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Contact Editor George Wienhold,  
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