

PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA • SUNCOAST FLORIDA

**PORSCHE**

# *Profile*

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026

ISSUE 26.1





Porsche Clearwater invites the Suncoast Region PCA to visit our new, state-of-the-art facility! We're located at 15500 US Highway 19 North in Clearwater.

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**PORSCHE**

# PORSCHE Profile

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026 ISSUE 26.1

Porsche  
Clearwater  
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President  
Jim Farmer



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## CONTRIBUTORS:

Danielle Walls, Jim Farmer, Keith Pringle, John Vento, Jerry & Kirsten Eggert, John Punzak, Debbie Spee, Roger Fabel, Marshall Burnette, Ralph Porzio

ON THE COVER by Ralph Porzio

# Suncoast Porsche Club of America Board of Directors



## OFFICERS



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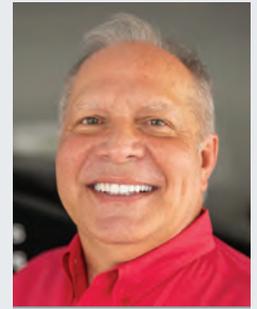
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## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Chief Track Instructor .....	Brad Beckett
DE Registrar .....	Debbie Spee
DE Tech .....	Rene Spee
Rally Master .....	Russ Hostetler
Tour Master .....	TBD
Tire Rack Street Survival .....	David Herndon
PCA Club Race .....	Joshua Breckeen
IT Administrator .....	Tim McGaughey

## PORSCHE PROFILE

Magazine Designer . . .	Sally Zimmermann
	Alice June Graphics
Magazine Editor . . . . .	TBD
Photo of the Month . . .	Ralph Porzio

PCA Zone 12 Rep . . . . Karyn Rinaldi

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)

## #inserviceto Our Members, Our Cars, Our Club



*Delivering value through service, leadership, and the shared Porsche experience*

Fellow Suncoast Florida Region Members,

It is both an honor and a privilege to write to you for the first time as your newly elected President. I am grateful for the trust you've placed in me and our Board of Directors, and I'm excited about where we are headed together. As we begin a new year, I want to share my vision, our collective mission, and the priorities that will guide us—always with one clear focus: **delivering meaningful value to you, our members.**

### First and Foremost: We Are a Car Club

At our core, and always, we are a **car club**. Specifically, a Porsche car club—bound by a shared passion for driving, engineering, heritage, and the unique experiences that only these cars can deliver. Everything we do should tie back to that simple truth.

Whether it's Driver Education, Autocross, Tours, Rallies, Social events, Tech Sessions, or simply gathering around a parking lot admiring each other's cars, our purpose is to bring people together through Porsche. The friendships, memories, and sense of belonging that come from these experiences are what make this club special.

### A Guiding Principle: #inserviceto

As your Board of Directors begins this term, we are introducing a guiding principle that we will use consistently and intentionally:

#### #inserviceto

This is more than a tagline—it is a mindset and a commitment.

- In service to our members
- In service to the club
- In service to Porsche driving experiences
- In service to community and connection

Every decision we make, every event we plan, and every initiative we launch will be viewed through this lens. Leadership in this club is not about position or title; it is about service. Your Board is here to listen, to support, and to create opportunities that enhance your membership experience.

### Vision & Mission: Delivering Member Value

Our vision is straightforward: **to be a vibrant, welcoming, and engaging Porsche club that offers something for every member—regardless of age, tenure, or driving interest.**

Our mission is to:

- Provide high-quality driving and social experiences
- Foster camaraderie and lifelong friendships
- Encourage safe, enjoyable Porsche driving
- Offer clear value for your time, involvement, and membership

Value looks different to different members. For some, it's track time and skill development. For others, it's social gatherings, tours, or technical knowledge. Our goal is not to force a one-size-fits-all approach, but to **offer a balanced portfolio of activities** that allows each member to engage in ways that are meaningful to them.

### Goals & Objectives for the Coming Year

As we look ahead, here are several focus areas you'll see us actively working on:

- **Member Engagement**  
Creating events and communications that encourage participation, connection, and fun—especially for both long-standing members and those newer to the club.
- **Generational Balance**  
Ensuring our activities resonate with members across age groups, recognizing that the future strength of the club depends on engaging the next generation while honoring the foundation built by those who came before.

- **Quality Over Quantity**

Being intentional about the experiences we offer—focusing on well-organized, thoughtfully executed events that members look forward to and talk about afterward.

- **Clear Communication**

Keeping members informed, aligned, and connected through The Profile, eNewsletters, social media, our website and in-person conversations.

- **Volunteer Support & Sustainability**

Recognizing that this club runs on volunteer passion, and ensuring we support, appreciate, and develop future leaders who want to serve.

### The Role of Leadership

Your Board of Directors, committee chairs, and volunteers are united in a shared commitment to lead with humility, collaboration, and respect. We may not always get everything perfect, but I can promise you this: **we will always be #inserviceto the members and the mission of this club.**

We welcome feedback, ideas, and involvement. If you have a passion, a skill, or simply a desire to help, there is a place for you here.

### Looking Ahead

The year ahead is full of opportunity—on the road, on the track, and in the friendships we build along the way. I am excited about what we can accomplish together and deeply appreciative of the community that makes the Suncoast Florida Region PCA such a special place.

Thank you for being part of this club. I look forward to seeing you at events, shaking hands, talking cars, and sharing many great Porsche moments in 2026.

Warm regards,

**Jim Farmer**

President, Suncoast Florida Region  
Porsche Club of America



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3. The "highest ratings currently awarded" refers to the highest ratings currently awarded to any U.S. life insurer, specifically: Standard & Poor's (AA+); A.M. Best (A++); Moody's (Aaa); and Fitch (AAA). Source: Individual Third-Party Ratings Reports as of 11/17/2023.

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The New York Life Secure Term MVA Fixed Annuity is issued by New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation (A Delaware Corporation), a wholly owned subsidiary of New York Life Insurance Company, 51 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010.

## 2025 Suncoast Schedule of Events

Register for events at [www.ClubRegistration.net](http://www.ClubRegistration.net)

### 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—Meets on the third Saturday** at ClearSky Club Haus, 36355 East Lake Road, north end of Ridgemoor Shopping Center. We meet at 9 AM. 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)

**Winter Haven - 3rd Saturday of the Month** Flight Line Café - Winter Haven 2073 US 92 West, Winter Haven – 8:30AM Breakfast [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)

**4th Wednesday of the Month (NEW VENUE)** – Gecko's Grill & Pub – 351 North Cattlemens Road, Sarasota – 11:30AM [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)



## Suncoast PCA DE at Sebring

by Debbie Spee



See dates below for 2026 events!

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))

Rene Spee, DE Tech Chair ([DETech@SuncoastPCA.org](mailto:DETech@SuncoastPCA.org))

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

*N.B.: Check our website [Suncoast PCA.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 2025 AutoX Events

Watch [www.clubregistration.net](http://www.clubregistration.net) for more 2026 dates

## Suncoast 2026 DE Events

All at Sebring International Raceway

Jan 3 & 4 • Mar 13, 14 & 15 • Apr 25 & 26 • May 16 & 17 • June 20 & 21  
July 25 & 26 • Sept 12 & 13 • Oct 23, 24 & 25 • Nov 13, 14, & 15

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

# PORSCHE



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## Driving Forward: A New Era of Communication for Suncoast PCA

by Danielle Walls,  
Suncoast PCA Communication Director



As the newly appointed Marketing & Communications Director for the Suncoast Region of the Porsche Club of America, I am honored to take the wheel in shaping how we connect, share, and celebrate our passion for Porsche. Our club thrives on community, and my goal is to ensure that every member feels informed, engaged, and inspired through a unified voice across all platforms.

In today's fast-paced world, communication is more than just delivering information—it's about creating experiences. That's why I'll be overseeing four key areas: our **website**, **social media channels**, **e-newsletter**, and our flagship publication, **Porsche Profile**

magazine. Each of these touchpoints plays a vital role in telling our story, and together, they will form a streamlined and cohesive presence that reflects the excellence of our club and the enthusiasm of our members.

One of my top priorities is consistency. Whether you're reading an article online, scrolling through social media, or flipping through the pages of Porsche Profile, you should feel the same sense of connection and pride. We are working to align our tone, visuals, and messaging so that every interaction feels distinctly "Suncoast PCA." It's about speaking to all members—longtime enthusiasts and new members alike—while showcasing the diversity and vibrancy of our community.

Speaking of Porsche Profile, I'm thrilled to highlight its **new look**. Our magazine has always been a cornerstone of the club, and this refresh brings a modern, dynamic design that matches the energy of our events and the elegance of the cars we love. Expect cleaner layouts, striking photography, and engaging content that goes beyond the garage—stories that capture the lifestyle,

camaraderie, and innovation that define Porsche ownership. This isn't just a facelift; it's a commitment to delivering a publication that members will look forward to with every issue.

But communication is a two-way street. We want to hear from you—your ideas, your feedback, and your stories. Our platforms will not only inform but also invite participation. From interactive social media campaigns to member spotlights in the magazine, we'll create opportunities for everyone to share their voice and be part of the conversation.

The road ahead is exciting, and I'm eager to work with our talented team to make Porsche Club of America – Suncoast Florida communications as exceptional as the cars we drive. Together, we'll ensure that every message reflects the passion, precision, and performance that Porsche represents.

Here's to a new chapter—one that connects us more closely than ever and celebrates what makes our club extraordinary. ▣

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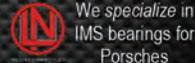



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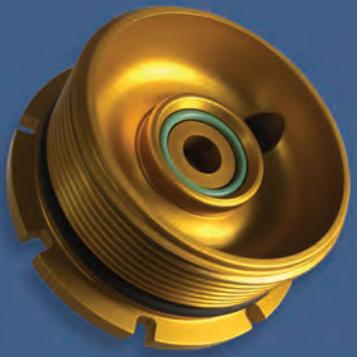


Before



After

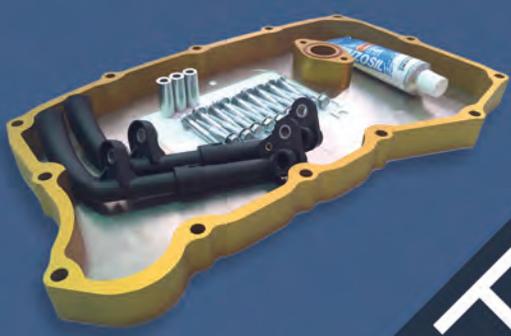
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**Danielle:** Can you share with our readers and members about who you are, and what inspired you to be the General Manager at Porsche Clearwater and how your vision has evolved over time?

**Mike:** My name is Mike O'Donnell. I've been with the Bert Smith Organization for 20 years now. I never wanted to be in the car business, but always had a love for Porsche. What was supposed to be an in-between job in my mid-twenties turned into a great career. From a vision standpoint, I've always tried to keep it simple - offer a high level, transparent, and easy purchase experience. I want Porsche Clearwater to be a great place to work, as well as a great place to do business. My goal is to train and retain team members that share my passion for the brand and are able to translate that into an excellent customer experience.

**Danielle:** What inspired your business to connect with the Porsche community beyond the dealership, and how does Porsche Clearwater services cater to Porsche enthusiasts?

**Mike:** The Bert Smith organization has been active in the community since its inception in the 50's. From a Porsche standpoint, we like to cater to folks that share our common love for the brand. We have been the Presenting Sponsor for the Festivals of Speed for 15 years now, and we also host a number of events throughout the year that bring good Porsche people together.

**Danielle:** What are the key benefits that Porsche owners can expect from Porsche Clearwater's diverse lines of vehicles or services?

**Mike:** From a vehicles sales standpoint, we have a robust selection of new and CPO Porsche models. On the parts and service side, we have one of the most tenured and experienced Porsche shops in the state as well with 6 goldmeister technicians on staff.

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



**Mike:** We live and breathe the brand here at Porsche Clearwater, and want to be our customer's home for all things Porsche. We have trained Brand Ambassadors on staff to help make customer's Porsche dreams come true in a manner that is both transparent and fun.

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

**Mike:** The market is always changing, and we try to adapt as best we can. Porsche recently adopted an EV heavy product strategy that they are having to walk back a bit. In doing so, our volume as a brand will actually go down over the next couple years as Macan ICE and 718 are going away, with no predecessors in the immediate pipeline.

**Danielle:** How does your company contribute to the local community or industry at large?

**Mike:** We work with a number of local charities and organizations, to include Kart 4 Kids, Toys for Tots, and the Dali Museum, to name a few. □



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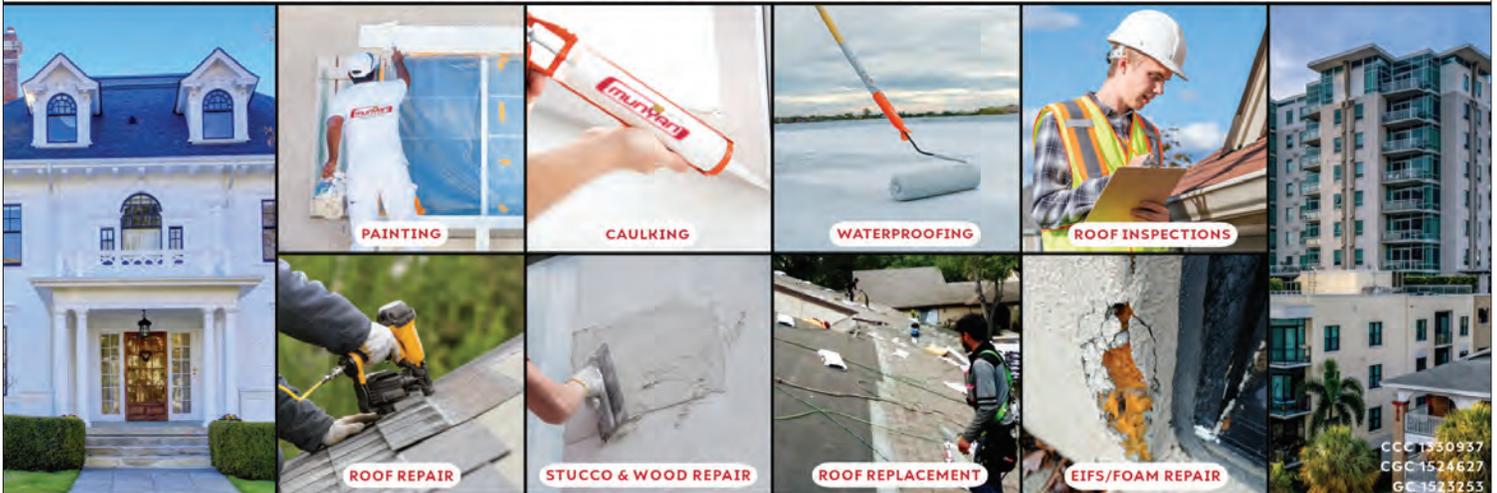
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Attorney Greg Perenich with his 911 Carrera 4GTS.

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Ramy Wahba  
John & Patti Connell  
Robert Ponte  
Rena & Geir Fjugstad  
Christopher & William Berry  
Ray Franzen & Bianca Maresch

## DECEMBER 2025 Welcome our newest members:

Christopher	Alicea	North Port	2018	Panamera Turbo
Tom	Anderson	Nokomis	2016	911 Carrera GTS
Anthony	Annese	Saint Petersburg	2014	911 Carrera S Cab
Bartle & Kelly	Azzarelli	Dover	2008	Boxster RS 60 Spyder
Charles & Cindi	Bacon	St Petersburg	2024	911 Targa 4S
Mathew	Blankenbiller	Lakeland	2015	911 Carrera 4
Antonio & Natalie	Bostic	St Petersburg	2022	Macan
Cameron	Brown	Saint Petersburg	2025	718 Cayman GTS 4.0
David	Carey	Tampa	2024	911 Turbo S
Umesh	Cooduvalli	St Petersburg	2015	Panamera SE-Hybrid
Rosario	Crane	Tampa	2025	718 Cayman GTS 4.0
Benjamin & Roxana	Dumitrascuta	Sarasota	2025	911 GT3 RS
Thomas & Jesse	Elkins	Saint Petersburg	2007	Cayman
Gary	Ertl	Tierra Verde	2024	911 Carrera
Michael & Kimberly	Farrell	Clearwater	2016	Cayman GT4
Jeffery & Diego	Fernandez	Saint Petersburg	2017	718 Cayman S
Timothy & Jeanne Mcdonough-	Ferreira	Lakewood Ranch	2024	911 Carrera GTS Cab
Jordan	Foreid	Tampa	2014	Cayenne GTS
Frank	Giuffre	Sarasota	2017	911 Carrera 4S
David	Goris	Wesley Chapel	2012	911 Carrera S
Greg	Hass	Clearwater Beach	2000	Boxster S
Ahmad	Hassan	Redington Shores	2025	718 Boxster GTS 4.0
Amit	Johnsingh	Tampa	2012	911 Carrera GTS
Donald	Jowdy	Tampa	2026	911 Carrera GTS Cab
Adam	Koby	Temple Terrace	2002	911 Carrera
Max	Lafer	Sarasota	1991	911 Carrera 2
Victor Langford &	Ya Laford	Tampa	2021	Taycan 4S
Robert	Lyons	Mooreville	2001	911 Carrera
Timothy & MaryAnne	Martin	Hudson	2014	911 Carrera S
Brandon	Martiny	St. Petersburg	2025	718 Cayman
Terri	Matchett	Osprey	2026	Macan
Krista & Jim	Matusky	Plant City	2018	718 Cayman
Tim & Karen	Mcdermott	Clearwater	2008	Boxster S
Joseph & Madeline	Miller	Bradenton	2011	Boxster
Tomasz	Moritz	Belleair	2026	911 Carrera S
Alejandro	Navarro	Valrico	2017	911 Carrera 4S Cab
Catherine	Nelke	Saint Petersburg	2023	Panamera
Ed Nemphos &	Barbara Lorenzo	Sarasota	2013	911 Carrera S
Thomas	Oconnell	Palm Harbor	2004	911 Carrera
Jared	Ott	Wesley Chapel	2026	911 Carrera S
Lucas	Pinto	Tampa	2024	911 Carrera
George	Reenstra	Longboat Key	1969	912 Targa
Frank	Rodriguez	Punta Gorda	2016	Panamera Edition
Joseph	Scott	Tampa	2014	Cayenne GTS
Quikeef	Simmons	Seffner	2022	Panamera 4SE-Hybrid
Peter	Smith	Dunedin	2020	Macan S
Kevin	Sunderland	Winter Haven	2021	Cayenne
Miles & Matthew	Swenson	Tampa	1972	911T Targa
Shawn	Swiatkowski	Sarasota	2025	Macan S
Michael & Jennifer	Talty	Tequesta	2024	718 Cayman GTS 4.0
William	Vargas	Riverview	2017	911 Carrera S
David & Julie	Warsaw	Basking Ridge	2023	Macan GTS
Steve	Whitehurst	Largo	2018	Panamera Turbo
Thomas	Yacko	Palm Harbor	1995	911 Carrera
Kirill	Yukhimets	Nokomis	2022	911 Carrera S
Edib	Zivalj	Safety Harbor	2010	911 Carrera S Cab

Primary Members: 2,238 • Affiliate Members: 1,236 • Total Members: 3,449 • PCA Juniors: 116



and realistic pathways into race-prepped machinery. Motorsports Guru was built to provide that bridge: safe, supported, cost-practical movement from spirited track days into proper, prepared race platforms.

**Jim: Thinking about what Motorsports Guru offers, what are the key benefits Porsche owners or fans can expect?**

**Harj:** Reputation and community sit at the core of what we do. We don't simply sell a product and send someone on their way — we guide them through every phase if they want to go beyond DE: accreditation, licensing, series selection, car choice, preparation support, and even sponsorship introductions when appropriate.

Our aim is to take someone from their Cayman on DE days, to novice racing, and eventually to serious competition if that's the path they choose. Alongside that, we've been building a national resource network: tracks, shops, tuners, prep specialists, coaching programs — all organized by region.

Whether someone lives in Colorado, Florida, or New York, we want them to know:

- **where to run,**
- **who to trust with their car**
- **where to source parts**
- **and what pathway is right for their budget and goals**
- **Lastly to stay vigilant on expectations and especially around costs**



Harj Singh, Owner, Motorsports Guru

**Jim: So Harj, can you share with our readers and members about who you are, what inspired you to start Motorsports Guru, and how your vision has evolved over time?**

**Harj:** Absolutely. I was born and raised in the UK and grew up surrounded by motorsport. I raced when I was younger, and many of my close friends competed in British Touring Cars. From the age of 16 we were already driving the Nürburgring — that was our home track — and motorsport has been at the center of my life ever since.

The industry itself hasn't changed dramatically since the 60s and 70s. It has always been a serious, for-profit business. But what has evolved is accessibility. Motorsport used to be reserved only for those with extremely deep pockets. Today, families — fathers and sons, mothers and daughters — can start in karting and progress all the way into professional series.

I've lived that journey personally. We are a racing family as my oldest son began racing at seven years old, progressed through karting and into the professional ranks as he claimed multiple victories in various series. Having seen the industry from both inside the paddock and through the parent-side of development, I realised there was a need to help people navigate the path. That's ultimately what shaped Motorsports Guru: making motorsport approachable, safe, and structured for those who want to go further than casual track days.

**Jim: What inspired your business to connect with the Porsche community, and how do your services cater to that enthusiast?**

**Harj:** I properly re-entered the motorsport world in 2019, after my son retired from competitive racing. I spent over a decade fully focused on his career, and once he stepped away, he told me, "Dad, now it's your turn again." And oh boy has it been fun ever since.

I wasn't interested in going back to full professional competition, so I entered the DE world — the social, community, learning side of performance driving. That began with Suncoast PCA, mostly at Sebring. My first Porsche was in 2018, and I went straight to a GT3 RS because I wanted something I could drive to the track, run hard, and drive home without a crew.

After a couple of years at PCA track days, it became clear there was a gap: many were pushing street cars well beyond intended limits without proper safety infrastructure. Gavin Riches once told me flat-out, "You're running Sebring at 2:10 pace in a street car with no safety gear. That's dangerous." And he was right. I recall turning in at T1 at Sebring and there was no feel to the front of the car at a min speed of 90+mph, a major incident was inevitable.

That's when I realised Porsche drivers needed more than just performance — they needed guidance, safe entry points,

It's motorsport guidance without gatekeeping — a peer network with structure, we are continuing to build that national network for everyone to enjoy.

**Jim: How does your business reflect the values and heritage of Porsche?**

**Harj:** Porsche is one of the most respected motorsport brands in history, not because of horsepower but because of how they develop drivers, build legacy, and create loyalty. We want to emulate that model on a realistic scale.

Drivers like Kevin Estre didn't start in the professional Porsche ranks. He worked his way up from small karting budgets with his dad and was eventually recognized. That's the lineage Porsche excels at — turning raw passion into professional craft.

We want to support people in that same spirit: not by saying "race this series because it's nearest," but by asking:

- **what's within your budget?**
- **what's safe and others around you who are safe?**
- **what's efficient to run?**
- **who are the right shops to trust and can support you in that series of DE?**

Porsche offers a dealer network; we want

to complement that with an independent motorsport support network — the shops, tuners, builders, and race prep specialists who actually live in the paddock. I want to be clear we are not a shop or have any intentions of that but to support and promote all the shops we have built relationships with nationally and even those we don't know, we hope to know soon via our clients and other referrals.

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

**Harj:** Rather than waiting on trends, we're creating one: we're the only organisation in North America that offers structured financing on race cars and full racing budgets. It is a different world from street car financing, and there was no support system for it until now.

Alongside that, there's a wave of younger, financially-strong drivers in their late 20s and 30s who want to get into track culture but don't know where to start. They're not lacking enthusiasm — they're lacking information. As they learn what these cars can really do, they'll need guidance, safe stepping-stones, and non-intimidating entry points. We're preparing now for a

generation that will arrive with resources and interest but not yet clarity.

**Jim: How does Motorsports Guru contribute to the local community and the wider industry?**

**Harj:** Locally, whenever someone calls asking about a car or race program, the first thing we do is point them to a trusted shop in their region if we don't have the right fit. Independent Porsche shops are the heartbeat of this culture, and we want to support them.

At the industry level, financing solutions and national-level network mapping are our biggest contributions. There is no unified motorsport community database today. We're building one: tracks, shops, prep facilities, coaching, regions, departments, and vendors tied to specific car types and model needs.

And at the end of the day, our best growth isn't from advertising — it's from trust. Recently, a customer purchased a GT4 Clubsport through us. His local shop called to vet the car, realised who we were, and said, "No questions — we will tell him to buy it today." That level of confidence takes years to build. It's the standard we're committed to. ■



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## Porsches in the Park at St. Armand's Circle

by Danielle Walls

On December 13, St. Armands Circle transformed into a paradise for Porsche enthusiasts as Suncoast Porsche hosted its annual Porsches in the Park event. Against the backdrop of Sarasota's iconic shopping and dining district, dozens of gleaming Porsche models—from timeless classics to the latest innovations—lined the streets, drawing crowds of admirers and photographers alike.

The event celebrated more than just automotive excellence; it showcased the vibrant community that surrounds the Porsche brand. Guests strolled through the circle, enjoying conversations with fellow enthusiasts, learning about the heritage of these legendary cars, and capturing stunning photos of vehicles that epitomize performance and design. Suncoast Porsche representatives were on hand to answer questions and share insights about the newest models, while attendees exchanged stories of their own Porsche journeys.

With perfect weather and a lively atmosphere, Porsches in the Park was more than a car show—it was a gathering of passion, precision, and camaraderie. Whether you came to admire the engineering, connect with the Porsche family, or simply soak in the beauty of St. Armands Circle, the event delivered an unforgettable experience that left everyone looking forward to next year's celebration. **▣**



All photos by David Wittly

## Introducing Carla, Suncoast PCA Social Director

by Carla Arthur  
Suncoast PCA Social Director

As the **Social Director for the PCA Suncoast Region**, I'm passionate about bringing members together through memorable events and genuine community connection. I believe the soul of this club isn't just the cars—it's the people who love them—and I strive to create experiences that make everyone feel welcomed, engaged, and excited to be part of the Suncoast family.

I have been into cars since I was a little girl, I'm not even really sure what sparked it. Maybe my brothers' matchbox cars?! My favorite was always the 57 Chevy Bel Air.

My first car was a Plymouth Horizon—and that baby could corner like it was on rails (at least I thought so at the time). My older brother used to ride shotgun while I whipped

around corners. He would always say, "Whoa there, Mario Andretti... you ain't driving no Porsche!" Now I get to joke with him that yes, I am in fact driving a Porsche—and this one has Sport Mode.

Just a small-town girl, born and raised in southwest Michigan. I have been calling sunny St. Petersburg home for nearly 15 years. I live here with my husband, Ryan, and our two pittie mixes, Benito & Gilly. When we aren't out on a good old-fashioned TC (Town Cruise), you can usually find us traveling, laughing with friends, or enjoying incredible food and great wine—often all at the same time.

Looking forward to a year of great events! **▣**



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## 48 Hours at Sebring

PCA Club Racing's Keystone Event—Powered by Volunteers

by Roger Fabel

If you are not familiar with **48 Hours at Sebring**, it is a co-produced Porsche Club of America Club Race presented by the Suncoast Florida Region and Gold Coast Region, hosted at Sebring International Raceway. Now entering its **33rd year**, this iconic weekend stands as the **first and largest event on the PCA Club Racing calendar**—and one of the most ambitious motorsports undertakings in the Club.

While PCA Club Racing is the centerpiece, the event's scope extends well beyond wheel-to-wheel competition. The weekend also features **Driver's Education (Advanced Solo) and Autocross**, creating a dynamic, multi-discipline experience that draws competitors and teams from across the country—including the West Coast, Midwest, Northeast, Texas—and even Canada.

### WHAT IT TAKES

An event of this magnitude requires months of preparation. Planning begins in late September and continues right up to race weekend. More than 20 committee members coordinate every detail, from logistics and registration to advertising and live streaming coverage of two full days of racing. The paddock alone accommodates 200+ race cars, teams, and Advanced Solo participants—an operation that runs only through meticulous organization and teamwork.

### VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

To keep 48 Hours at Sebring running at the standard our Club expects, volunteers are essential. Gold Coast Region has already begun outreach to their members, and now it's our turn. Whether you're trackside, paddock-based, or supporting operations behind the scenes, there is a role where your time and enthusiasm will make a real difference.

### GET INVOLVED

#### Event Website:

[www.48hoursatsebring.com/home.php](http://www.48hoursatsebring.com/home.php)

#### Volunteer Information:

[www.48hoursatsebring.com/volunteer.php](http://www.48hoursatsebring.com/volunteer.php)

**Volunteer Positions:** [www.48hoursatsebring.com/volunteerpositions.php](http://www.48hoursatsebring.com/volunteerpositions.php)

**Volunteer Sign-Up:** [www.48hoursatsebring.com/volunteersignin.php](http://www.48hoursatsebring.com/volunteersignin.php)

48 Hours at Sebring is more than a race—it's a showcase of PCA passion, professionalism, and community. If you want a front-row seat to one of the Club's most legendary weekends, we invite you to be part of the team that makes it happen. ■

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**Questions:**

48 Hours Race Registrar at:  
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**A new Porsche forum for the Suncoast Region!**

*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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**John:** Jim, let's start at the beginning. Where are you originally from?

**Jim:** I'm originally from a small town in southern Virginia called **Halifax, Virginia**. Most people haven't heard of Halifax—but many have heard of **Virginia International Raceway (VIR)**, which is only about 15 miles from where I grew up. Looking back, having one of the most iconic road courses in the country practically in my backyard may have planted an early seed for my love of motorsports—long before I ever owned a Porsche.

**John:** When did Porsche first enter your life?

**Jim:** My first Porsche was about **25 years ago**, a **2000 Porsche Carrera Cabriolet**. That car was my introduction to the brand—and it didn't take long for Porsche to get under my skin. I've owned several Porsches over the years, each one reinforcing why I made the right choice from the very beginning.

Today, my garage looks a little different. I currently own a **2012 Porsche GT3 SuperCup**, which represents how my passion has evolved from the street to motorsports-focused driving.

**John:** What drew you to Porsche over other performance brands?

**Jim:** Initially, it was the **German engineering** and that unmistakable **Porsche design**—a shape that's evolved, but never lost its identity. But once I started digging deeper, what really hooked me was **Porsche's development history**. The way lessons learned on the track directly influence road cars is something few brands

do as authentically as Porsche.

It's a brand built on purpose, precision, and performance—and you feel that every time you drive one.

**John:** What do you enjoy most about being a Porsche owner?

**Jim:** Without question, it's the shared passion among Porsche owners. Over the years, I've been involved in everything from Autocross to Driver's Education programs, and that sense of community is unlike anything else.

Two very close friends—Joe Shukys and Jeremy Dixon—were instrumental in getting me involved early on. Not only did they encourage me to participate, but over time we built long-lasting friendships that go far beyond the cars themselves. They were true influencers in my Porsche journey, and I honestly can't thank them enough.

I've built many lifelong friendships through PCA—relationships that extend well beyond the track. There's something special about connecting with people who share the same enthusiasm, whether you're chasing tenths on track or standing around a parking lot talking about tire choices. That's what makes this community so special.

**John:** Your passion clearly extends into motorsports. How did that evolve?

**Jim:** My love for Porsche naturally evolved into **Porsche Motorsports**. Whether I'm driving competitively or supporting from the sidelines, I'm always cheering for the brand.

I've attended some of the most iconic

events in motorsports—**Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona, 48 Hours at Sebring, IMSA**, and other world-renowned racing series. Porsche's presence in these events is more than branding—it's a continuation of their engineering philosophy and racing heritage.

Even as a spectator, there's nothing like watching Porsche compete at the highest levels.

**John:** Your professional background is equally impressive. What brought you to Florida?

**Jim:** Florida recruited me—quite literally. I moved here from Virginia after being recruited by **MCI**, which eventually became **Verizon Communications**. That opportunity set the foundation for what would become a long career in technology and infrastructure.

That journey ultimately led me to **Equinix**, the world's largest global data center provider, where I spent 17+ years. It was an incredible experience working at the intersection of technology, connectivity, and global scale.



...continued on page 22

# **SEBRING**

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**John: You retired... but didn't really retire. Tell us about that.**

**Jim:** That's correct—I had the opportunity to **retire early** a few years ago, but I don't feel retired at all. I'm still actively involved in several ongoing businesses and developing new ventures with partners.

I enjoy staying engaged, building things, and contributing where I can. Retirement, for me, just meant choosing what I work on rather than stepping away entirely.

**John: What accomplishments are you most proud of from your career?**

**Jim:** One of the accomplishments I'm most proud of came from leading my last marketing organization. Alongside incredible partners like **Dell, Cisco, Microsoft, AWS, and Google**, we helped develop highly precise **predictive analytics AI Platform** and **solutions for federal and state governments**.

In particular, our work supporting the **Department of Defense and Intelligence Communities** focused on identifying and interdicting global threat situations across all theaters of operation.

Knowing that, in a very small way, I was able to support missions that help **keep our nation safe** is something I'll always be proud of.

**John: How did you become involved with PCA leadership?**

**Jim:** My involvement with PCA leadership grew naturally from my passion for the club and the community. I've served on the **Suncoast Florida Region Board of Directors for the past two years**, most recently as **Treasurer**.

Serving on the board has given me a deeper appreciation for the volunteers who make this club work and the responsibility we have to steward it for future generations.

**John: As President, what excites you most about the road ahead?**

**Jim:** What excites me most is the opportunity to **serve the membership** and continue building a club that honors our heritage while evolving with the future. PCA is about people just as much as it's about cars, and my goal is to ensure our region remains welcoming, engaging, and relevant for all members.

I believe strongly in **participation, connection, and shared experiences**—whether that's on the track, at a social event, or simply enjoying the drive together.

**John: What does Porsche mean to you, personally?**

**Jim:** Porsche represents **precision, passion, and purpose**. It's a brand that rewards involvement, encourages learning, and builds community. From my first Carrera Cabriolet to my GT3 SuperCup today, Porsche has been a constant thread through different stages of my life.

At the end of the day, it's not just about the cars—it's about the experiences, the friendships, and the journey.

**John: Beyond the Suncoast Florida Region Board, are you involved with PCA at a broader level?**

**Jim:** Yes, in addition to serving on the Suncoast Florida Region Board of Directors—first as **Treasurer** and now as **President for the 2026–2027 term**—I'm also involved with the **48 Hours at Sebring Committee**, which supports PCA Club Racing's first race event of the year.

Sebring is special. It's not just an iconic track, it's an experience. The energy, the people, and the shared passion for motorsports make it one of those events that reminds you why you fell in love with Porsche and PCA in the first place.

**John: Many members know you through CarLocker in St. Petersburg. Tell us about that connection.**

**Jim:** I'm also involved with **CarLocker here in St. Petersburg**, which came about through a great relationship with **Roger Thrun**, the owner. CarLocker is a **car storage, consignment, and detailing business**, serving primarily exotic and luxury car owners and collectors.

We're fortunate to have **many Porsches in the facility**, and quite a few Suncoast Florida Region members store their cars with us. Several have also consigned vehicles with us, and many utilize our detailing services as well. It's been rewarding to see the overlap between business and club life, especially when it's centered around something we all genuinely enjoy.

**John: You've mentioned travel—what does that look like for you now?**

**Jim:** For most of my working career, I traveled constantly—but rarely had time to actually see anything. It was usually hotel, office, dinner, repeat.

Now, I travel for pleasure—and I'm making up for lost time. I just returned from a **month-long trip to Italy**, visiting **Venice, Verona, Florence, Tuscany, Barolo, Milan, and Sardinia**. It was an incredible experience.

Next up, I'll be heading to **Burgundy and Spain** toward the end of spring, and then back to **Barolo in the fall**. **Barolo and Barbaresco** are among my favorite Italian wines, so returning there always feels like coming home.

**John: What advice would you give to someone new to PCA—or to a member considering a new activity?**

**Jim:** I'd say this: nothing ventured, nothing gained.

I can't tell you how many times I've heard members say, after trying something like **Driver's Education (DE)**, "I wish I had done this years ago." And whether someone is new to the club or just new to an activity, it almost always comes down to the same thing—it's about the people. That sense of community is what makes PCA special.

**John: What club activity do you personally enjoy the most?**

**Jim:** For me, it's probably **Driver's Education**. Yes, it's absolutely about the Porsche—but it's also about the people you share the experience with.

A good friend of mine at the track, **Mark Grimmes**, once said something that really stuck with me. He told me, "*The moment you cross over that bridge at Sebring International Raceway, it's like a breath of fresh air—and I can't wait to see my track family.*"

That sums it up perfectly.

**John: Any final thoughts for our members?**

**Jim:** My advice to everyone—new members and long-time members alike—is simple: **you bought a Porsche for a reason**. Enjoy it. Enjoy it with fellow Porsche owners. Participate, try new things, and build those long-lasting friendships.

At the end of the day, yes—it's about the cars. But more importantly, **it's about the people.** ■



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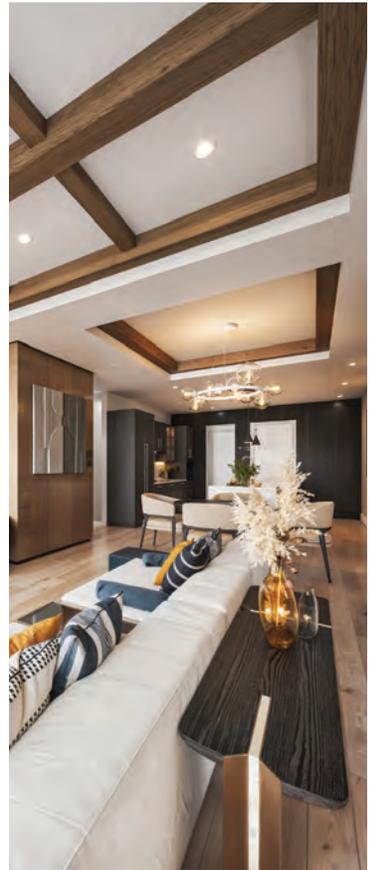
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# Built on Cones and Community

## The Strength of Suncoast PCA Autocross

by Jerry & Kirsten Eggert



### Happy New Year, Suncoast Region PCA members and fellow autocrossers!

Many of you are already aware, but this will be the last edition from the 2025 Competitive Activities Co-Chairs, Jerry & Kirsten Eggert. We were invited to take over duties for the 2020 autocross season after a great stint from Bill Sumansky and Tori Lewis. We knew it would be a lot of work to host 8-9 events per year, but we jumped right in, hoping to keep the program as popular as ever. Even with COVID-19 interrupting our first season, we were still able to host 7 events, using social distancing measures and moving to e-signature waivers.

After six years, we are ready to step out of the driver's seat and hand over the wheel to father and son, Neil and Jansen Yuenger (like "finger"). They will continue and hopefully improve the program for years to come.

If memory serves, Neil and Jansen first attended the Venice event in April 2022 as guests/observers. After a couple of "ride-along" course runs with me and Kirsten (and likely another instructor or two), they were hooked and participated in the next Venice event in November. Jansen first competed in his 2016 Jaguar F-Type, while Neil drove his 2008 Boxster. By November 2023, things started getting serious when Jansen showed up in his new 2023 Cayman GTS 4.0. They have been sharing the car ever since. Jansen has become extremely competitive, with multiple top-10 finishes throughout 2025!

Our final event for the 2025 season wrapped up on Saturday, December 6th, at St. Petersburg College Allstate Center. The December event is also when we tally all the points for the year and award trophies for Class Champions and 1st and 2nd place finishers. You can see all the results at <https://suncoastpca.org/autocross/>. The annual "Mark Lasota Award," in honor

of one of the most dedicated autocross members from our Club, was awarded to Keith Pringle for his years of volunteering, course design, and for carrying on the spirit of Mark in our program. Kirsten and I were surprised to receive a trophy presented to us by Barbara Bakus, Daniel Cormier, Bill Sumansky, and Tori Lewis, "In recognition and appreciation of your many years of dedicated service and commitment to the Suncoast Region PCA Autocross Program." Another surprise during our BBQ lunch was the 50th wedding anniversary celebration of longtime PCA members Danny and Sharron Shields! Danny and Sharron first met in college during a car club meeting and have been autocrossing ever since. Congrats and cheers to many more years ahead!

As you can tell from these small examples from the Suncoast Florida Region, the PCA motto holds true: "It's not just the cars, it's the people." We believe we have one of the best autocross programs in all of PCA. Our events are always at capacity, and they remain a friendly yet competitive environment—a chance for us to drive our cars like they were meant to be driven!

We have many ladies, couples, father-son, and mother-daughter teams joining autocross, so come out as a family! For first-timers wanting to join us in 2026 but aren't sure of what to expect, here is some good information.

Our Suncoast Region PCA website has great resources, including the upcoming schedule of events, autocross details, photo galleries, and more.

<https://suncoastpca.org/autocross/>  
<https://suncoastpca.org/autocross/guidelines/>

Here's a link to a great autocross tutorial video from one of our northern PCA Regions. This would be great to review before the event: <https://youtu.be/oIH0A085w3U>



From Top:  
•Service award to Jerry and Kirsten Eggert.  
Handing over the Chair to Neil and Jansen.  
•The annual Mark Lasota Award,  
awarded to Keith Pringle  
•David Krewin - 1st place S5

So come out and join Neil and Jansen Yuenger to kick off the new 2026 autocross season! The first half of 2026 has been posted on [Clubregistration.net](http://Clubregistration.net), so mark your calendar with the open for registration and event dates. If you have any questions, please email [autocross@suncoastpca.org](mailto:autocross@suncoastpca.org)

Regards,  
Jerry & Kirsten Eggert  
Suncoast Region PCA Autocross Co-Chair – Retired!



# Cruising The Creative District

## Pop Art Meets Porsche

This issue of Profile's Photo of the Month showcases two standout photographs, chosen for their distinctive style and exceptional composition. Here are their stories.

I'm **Jerry Holderness** from Saint Petersburg Florida and this is a shot of my 1958 356A (T2) original 1600 Super Speedster that I have been driving since I purchased it from its former owner in Germany in 1972.

It has always had a garage space as we moved from Germany to Oklahoma to New Mexico to Georgia then back to a different city in New Mexico then to Washington and finally to Florida!

I took the shot with my iPhone 15 Max. On a run around downtown St. Petersburg on DriveYour356 day I parked on the bay side of the Dali Museum when I recognized a great scene, pulled over and took it.



Jerry Holderness - 958 356A (T2) original 1600 Super Speedster

**Keith Pringle** tells us he snapped his photo with an iPhone 15 leaving The Motor Enclave's Cars and Coffee on 8/16. The car is my 1979 911SC Targa.

I love Porsches in silver (this one is GT Silver) but it can be a tricky color to photograph because it seems to pick up a lot of the colors around it. Even so, how can you pass up such a colorful and car themed backdrop?

I have owned the car since 2011 and it is an ongoing labor of love. I drive the car in PCA Autocross and enjoy taking it everywhere, especially during the cooler months. (Having it out in August is an exception.)

Congratulations to both photographers for capturing and sharing Porsche excellence at its finest. ▣



Keith Pringle - 1979 911SC Targa

## Enter your photos for "Photo of the Month"

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.



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# Twists, Turns, and Turkey Season

The Thanksgiving Gimmick Rally Caps a Busy Three-Rally Year

by John Punzak

The Thanksgiving Gimmick Rally wrapped up a busy 3-Rally year for the Suncoast PCA. This event was held on November 8th, launching from the Tampabay Downs horse racing track. The fall weather was perfect for a great drive through the countryside of western Hillsborough and northern Pinellas Counties.

In all we had 12 registered entries with 9 vehicles participating. Before setting off, we enjoyed a “cars without coffee” gathering, talking about our rides, meeting new PCA members and getting to know each other. John Punzak served as Rally Master and explained the rules, finer points of the gimmicks and Pro Tips to navigating a successful rally.

The drivers enjoyed the best scenic roads in the Bay Area, going from “18 curves” Patterson Drive all the way to driving along the Gulf of America and Clearwater Beach. To keep things interesting, one of the control instructions read, “drive a considerable distance” which had the desired effect of throwing a couple of entries off course and invoking much discussion at the awards lunch.

The first place finishers were former rally masters Jim and Jeanne Hoey, who generously forfeited their place prize for the other participants since they possess extensive rallying experience. So, the 1st place trophy went to 2nd place finishers, Bruce Jones and Etta Strehle. Third place was driven by Glen Gretchen and Michelle Freer who got the 2nd place trophy; and the 4th place finishers, Wayne and Hanna Cree,



with their daughter, Mary Jo, along as an observer/co-navigator, took home the 3rd place trophy.

The prizes, including some serious Porsche swag, were donated courtesy of Porsche Tampa. Our host restaurant, Bonefish Grill, also donated a gift certificate. With so many prizes, all the finishers walked away with a prize.

Many thanks to the entire working group who helped to plan, build, test and manage the rally: Mo and Melody Rendahl, Doc and Bear Hostetler, and Mac Ritchie. □

### Official rally finishers:

1. Jim & Jeanne Hoey
2. Bruce Jones & Etta Strehle
3. Glen Gretchen & Michelle Freer
4. Wayne Cree and Hanna Cree (wife) and Mary Jo Cree (daughter)
5. George and Marlene Wienhold
6. David and Anne Hale
7. Tony Annese and Tom Punzak (brother)
8. Tom Chancey and Kathleen Wayne



On November 18 Marshall & Lilian Burnette hosted a Date Your Porsche & Pooch Night at Wesley Chapel Ford's Garage. It was attended by approximately 30 people, 20 cars & 3 dogs. Everyone enjoyed the cars, camaraderie, food & drink. The event was almost canceled the week prior when only 5 people had registered on Club Reg. Ralph Porzio came to the rescue by organizing a short drive before the event & got many more members to register. Ralph also took the event pictures. Thanks Ralph! ■



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## What is HPDE?

HPDE is High Performance Drivers Education or DE for short. These events are non-competitive, untimed driving schools held on dedicated racetracks designed to teach Porsche owners proper high speed driving techniques. The DE events run by Suncoast PCA all take place at the iconic Sebring International Raceway.

## How does one get started with HPDE?

By coming out and giving it a try. It's not everyone's cup of tea but you don't know until you try. Most folks are hooked by the end of the first session on the track!

## I have so many questions!

Perfect, we like questions – the more you ask, the more you learn. And each of us that participates in HPDE started out as a first timer so we all know how anxious you feel and how overwhelming this all sounds. Keep reading and most of your questions will be answered.

**What experience is required?** We do require that you are at least 18 years of age and hold a valid driver's license but previous high performance driving experience is not required. You will start out as a student. Some of you may have done a Porsche Experience day, or similar, but you will still start out as a student and will be assigned a PCA instructor for in-car instruction. Our goal is to have **FUN** and do it **SAFELY!**

All drivers (registered participants) are assigned a "run group" and each run group is color coded. In total there are five run groups – Green (novice student), Blue



(advanced student), White (solo driver), Black (advanced solo driver), and Pink (advanced solo driver).

## Why the different run groups? And how much time will I be on the track each day?

Drivers are assigned based on experience level. Students will only be on the track with other students (Green novice and Blue advanced run groups are on the track together); the Whites, Blacks and Pinks each have their own dedicated run groups.

Our daily on-track time is split equally between all the run groups, rotating throughout the day. A typical weekend will provide each run group with 4 x 30-minute sessions of on-track time per day. Students also have mandatory classroom sessions each day that they are registered to drive.

## Do I have to bring my own instructor?

No. Each student will be assigned a PCA instructor for in-car instruction. At no time will you be out on the track on your own, your assigned instructor will be in the car at all times with you.

## Can my family member or friend be in the car with me?

That is an negotiable NO! But they can come watch and hang out with you and the rest of us.

## How many cars will be on the track with me?

There is a set number of cars per mile per experience level – the more experienced the driver, the higher the run group they are in and the higher the number of cars allowed on track at the same time. The track at Sebring is 3.74 miles – that is a very long track. Suncoast PCA never ever reaches the

maximum number of cars allowed in any run group. The student group averages 20 – 25 cars per day. That might sound like a lot but once everyone gets going the gaps get wider and you will often find you have the track to yourself.

## How does one go from one run group to the next? And how long does it take to get to be a solo driver?

The amount of time any one driver spends in the Green novice group or the Blue advanced group will depend on a number of factors as each run group has specific requirements that must be met or exceeded in order for a driver to receive a promotion to a higher run group. This is applicable for all the run groups – regardless of experience level. Expect the progression to be at least a few weekends in each of the student groups. Once you reach solo status you will never again have an instructor beside you (you may have a coach at some point but that is a topic for later in your progression) so enjoy having an instructor, learn all you can from them, and opt to remain a student as long as possible – we are after all, a driver's education program.

## What will my day look like?

The days start early and at first glance of the schedule, appear long; but I can assure you, most of you will go home at the end of the day or weekend wishing you had "just one more session".

Many participants will arrive on the Friday evening before the event starts as we have our onsite Registration and Tech open from about 5:00 pm to about 6:30 pm. During this Registration and Tech hour, we also have a "social" where we serve a light meal and



beverages. It's always a great opportunity to meet fellow drivers and catch up with old friends. We are a very social and inclusive group – you'll become part of our "track family" very quickly.

If your initial arrival is the day of the event we recommend you arrive no later than 7:00 am. You have from about 7:00 am to 7:30 am to unload, set-up, register and get your car through inspection, so be prepared to move quickly and efficiently!

The mandatory drivers meetings start around 7:45 am and then it's off to orientation laps, classroom session and hot laps.

Around mid-day we take a one-hour break for lunch. Bring your own lunch or purchase something from the onsite "Track Shack" restaurant kiosk. During the lunch break we offer slow speed parade laps behind a pace car. This is the ONLY time you may take passengers in your car on the track.

We finish at 5:30 pm on Saturdays and 5:00 pm on Sundays, and we do run rain or shine.

#### Can I share a car with another driver?

Yes and no. A Green driver cannot share a car with a Blue driver on the same day because the Greens and the Blues go out on track at the same time.

A Green or a Blue driver can share a car with a White, Black or Pink driver as long as the car has 2 seats and equal restraints for both driver and passenger because the student will require an instructor in the car.

Alternatively, the two student drivers can share a car on different days – one driving it on Saturday and one driving in on Sunday.

#### What special equipment do I need?

An SA rated helmet – SA2020 or SA2025. And a track suitable car – this can be your daily driver sedan or an SUV like a Macan,

but not a pickup truck. All vehicles must pass a pre-arrival tech inspection performed at an approved shop. We have a list and a form for this process.

A tow hooked installed and your assigned numbers on your car.

Clothing should be cotton, and with at least short sleeves. Footwear must be closed toe and preferably flat soled. Chunky heels and hiking boots are not appropriate – you want to have good feeling of the gas, brake and clutch pedals.

#### Who makes up the rules?

All HPDE events are governed by PCA National. They have minimum standards that must be met or exceeded.

#### I won't know anyone there.

Not in the first few minutes but you'll be surprised how quickly you'll be chatting – just ask any driver about their car and you're off to the races – no pun intended.

#### Where can I stay?

There are a number of hotels in the area including one right at the track (Hotel Seven). Mention that you are a PCA member as most offer a discount. You can also bring your RV or have one delivered – lots of drivers camp for the weekend on the paddock. Afterall, we rent the whole track!!

#### How do I sign up?

Create a ClubReg account (Club Registration – [www.clubregistration.net](http://www.clubregistration.net)), register for an HPDE event and come join us for the best weekend ever!

**If you have any additional questions or need further information, email the DE Registrar at [DERegistrar@SuncoastPCA.org](mailto:DERegistrar@SuncoastPCA.org). We look forward to seeing you soon at Sebring!!** ■



*It's always a great opportunity to meet fellow drivers and catch up with old friends. We are a very social and inclusive group – you'll become part of our "track family" very quickly.*



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# Porsche Design Unveils the Chronograph 1 – PCA Member Edition

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

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



► Visit: [pca.org/news/porsche-design-chronograph-1-pca-member-edition](https://pca.org/news/porsche-design-chronograph-1-pca-member-edition)



## PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

## Suncoast Florida Region 2025 Annual Holiday Gala: *A Celebration of Fellowship and Excellence*

by Jim Farmer



The 2025 Suncoast Florida Region Annual Holiday Gala brought Porsche enthusiasts together in the spirit of fellowship, celebration, and recognition. Hosted at Red Mesa Cantina in downtown St. Petersburg, the event welcomed many of the incoming 2026 Board of Directors along with a strong showing of new members, creating an atmosphere filled with warmth, connection, and excitement for the year ahead.

The evening began with a festive happy hour featuring passed hors d'oeuvres, seasonal cocktails, and an assortment of wines. In-coming President Jim Farmer served as Master of Ceremonies, opening the gala with a warm welcome and providing an overview of the evening's program, which included dinner, recognition awards, a special service contributions presentation, and parting gifts for attendees.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the **2025 Suncoast Florida Region PCA Dealer Appreciation Awards**, recognizing **Porsche Clearwater, Porsche Tampa, and Suncoast Porsche**. Their continued support and generosity play a vital role in strengthening both the club and the Porsche brand throughout the region.

Individual and family contributions were also celebrated. The Most Active Member Award was presented to Barbara Bakus for her consistent participation and involvement across club activities. The Most Enthusiastic Family Award was

awarded to Chip and Jill Valente, whose passion, positivity, and willingness to support fellow members exemplify the true spirit of Porsche enthusiasm.

Several special recognition awards followed. The President's Award for Relentless Pursuit of HPDE Excellence was presented to Brad Beckett, CTI, honoring his diligence, commitment to excellence, and forward-looking leadership within the HPDE program. The Defining Excellence Award was presented to Joe Shukys, recognizing his vision, leadership, and dedication during his final two years as Club President.

The Endurance Appreciation Award was awarded to Paul Bienick for his unwavering support and ongoing contributions, particularly in strengthening the club's web presence. The IT Excellence Appreciation Award was presented to Tim McGaughey, recognizing his instrumental role in modernizing the club's technology, systems, and security.

The evening also provided an opportunity to recognize several members whose contributions had previously been overlooked but were deserving of formal acknowledgment. Defining Excellence Emeritus Awards were presented to Amy Riches (HPDE Registrar Emeritus, 2007–2014; HPDE Director/CTI Emeritus, 2015–2021) and Denise Remus (HPDE Registrar Emeritus, 2016–2022). Each was thanked for their invaluable service and lasting impact on the club.

Additional Defining Excellence Leadership Emeritus Awards (2024–2025) were presented to Joe Shukys, President Emeritus; Jim Farmer, Treasurer Emeritus; Michael Brown, Secretary Emeritus; Mike Hofmeister, Vice President Emeritus; John Vento, Governance Director Emeritus; Connie Rhodes, Social Activities Director Emeritus; Kirsten and Jerry Eggert, AutoX Directors Emeritus; Harvey Goldberg, Tourmeister Emeritus; and Jon James, Director-at-Large Emeritus. Their dedication and leadership have helped shape the club's continued success.

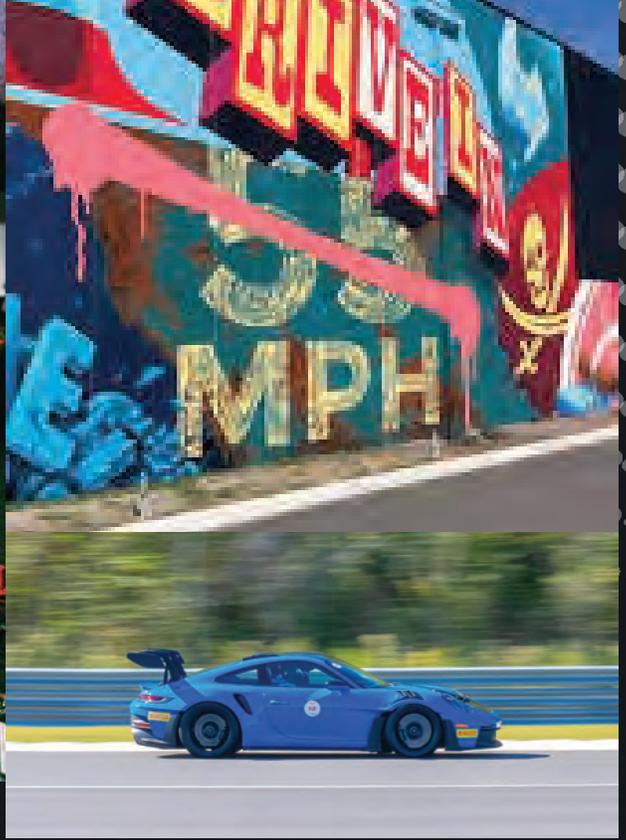
The final award of the evening, the prestigious Dave Cook Award, was presented to Mark Krekorian. A member of the Suncoast Florida Region since 1976, Mark served as Club President in 1980, participated in numerous PCA National Parade events, organized countless tours and activities, and built lifelong friendships throughout the PCA community. His enduring commitment and spirit of camaraderie truly embody the values of this award.

As the evening came to a close, the celebration left behind a sense of nostalgia, gratitude, and pride in the community we share. Planning for the 2026 Holiday Gala has already begun, including the sourcing of a new and inspiring location. Stay tuned as our new Social Director, Carla Arthur, designs an evening to remember—one that honors our traditions, celebrates our fellowship, and adds an elegant chapter to the Suncoast Florida Region story. ■



SUNCOAST REGION OF  
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# Suncoast Florida Region, Porsche Club of America, Inc.

## Annual Treasurer's Report

by Jim Farmer

I am pleased to inform the members of the Suncoast Florida Region, Porsche Club of America, Inc. that the financial performance of the club continues to be in a strong position. Please see the enclosed Profit and Loss Statement for the period of January 1 through November 30, 2025. There's approximately \$17,000 in advertiser invoicing to be collected.

Warm Regards,



**Jim Farmer**

Treasurer, Suncoast Florida Region, Porsche Club of America, Inc.

Cash Basis	Jan-Nov '25		
<b>Income</b>		<b>507 — BOARD MEETING EXPENSES</b>	1,456.32
400 — 48 HOURS @ SEBRING	4,000.00	<b>509 — INSURANCE</b>	5,400.00
401 — AUTO CROSS	17,764.91	510 — TRACK RENTAL	450,960.13
402 — DRIVERS EDUCATION	497,432.55	511 — DRIVERS ED EXPENSES	150.00
403 — RALLIES	1,482.00	512 — PROCESSING FEES	22,488.51
405 — PCA QTRLY MEMBER REVENUE	44,075.72	513 — TAXES & LICENSES	505.60
406 — PCA SUBSIDY	1,750.00	514 — FOOD & BEVERAGE	44,889.87
408 — ADVERTISING	5,524.84	517 — MISC EXPENSE	22,713.43
409 — SOCIAL INCOME	250.00	518 — OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,148.01
410 — MISCELLANEOUS	28,986.14	519 — PROFESSIONAL FEES	11,946.50
412 — TRSS	4,200.00	520 — POSTAGE	13,627.71
414 — Other Income-Interest Received	1,785.99	521 — PRINTING	33,075.77
418 — TOURS	1,410.00	527 — IT EQUIPMENT	41.59
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>608,662.15</b>	528 — IT SOFTWARE	455.88
<b>Expense</b>		531 — TRACK DAMAGE RECEIVABLE	2,246.24
501 — STORAGE	745.20	532 — IT SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,828.06
502 — MILEAGE EXPENSE	3,524.54	533 — HOTEL ROOM & TAX	4,984.23
503 — TROPHIES	2,114.63	534 — MERCHANT EXPENSE - SQUARE	178.28
505 — BANK CHGS	77.37	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>624,557.87</b>
		<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-15,895.72</b>

## Wash and Shine at Quaker Steak & Lube

by Brian West

Karts 4 Kids hosted a Wash and Shine event in conjunction with a swap meet on a postcard-perfect Sunday morning, November 30. A strong showing of beautifully prepared Porsches participated, grouped into four classes: Pre-1990, 911, GT Cars, and Cayman/Boxster.

Nationally recognized concours judges Mark Krekorian and Tom Briest generously lent their expertise, carefully evaluating both exterior and interior details. Judging criteria included paint, glass, wheels and tires, bumpers, lights, as well as interior elements such as seat belts, carpets, dash, upholstery, headliner, and door jambs.

With competition exceptionally close, four class winners were selected:

- Henry Alonso — 2025 GT Spyder
- Page Obenshain — 2007 911 Turbo
- Don and Patty Pierce — 2008 Cayman S
- Brendan Steele — 1978 911 SC

A sincere thank you to all who took the time to prepare and showcase their outstanding Porsches, and to the merchants and attendees who helped make the swap meet a success. ■



Page Obenshain poses with his trophy beside his 911 Turbo.

Photo Courtesy of George Weinhold.



## 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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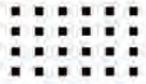


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# Marketplace

Suncoast Florida PCA's official free classified section

## AUTOMOBILES

**2008 Cayman 2.7L** Meteor-gray-metallic on stone-gray leather Low-mileage 50k, Tiptronic Equipment includes Sport Chrono Package, PSM, 18 Boxster S wheels, deployable rear spoiler, Hi-Fi sound system, bi-xenon headlights, LED spars, dual sport exhausts, automatic climate control, cruise control \$29,000 Frostie Schneemann [vschneemann@mac.com](mailto:vschneemann@mac.com) 941-726-9701 Bradenton, FL

**2011 911 C4S Cabriolet** Stunning and well-documented 24,188 miles, PDK, Exterior- Carrera White, Interior- Brown Natural Leather. \$30k of factory options, Sport exhaust & Chrono packages, BOSE, 19" Turbo II wheels, Garage-kept, Service Records. St. Petersburg. \$71,750 [devin@carlocker.com](mailto:devin@carlocker.com)

**2015 981 Cayman GTS**, Carmine Red/Black w/ Alcantara, 3.4L, PDK, 20" Carrera 2 wheels, Sport Chrono, PASM, PCM, 34,109 miles. Serviced at Reeves/Morgan since 2018. Excellent condition. \$64,981. 813-240-1339 or [Michael.presta@verizon.net](mailto:Michael.presta@verizon.net) for more info, questions, and photos. Tampa

**1973 914 2.0L, Bahia Red on Black**, Unmolested body, solid and rust-free. Pristine 15x5.5 Fuchs. Stock interior seats, door panels, carpets excellent shape. Always garaged and well-maintained. Driven only on weekends. 96K miles. \$22,500. Kevin - [kktemecula@aol.com](mailto:kktemecula@aol.com). (11/24)

**1998 993 Cabriolet**, Pristine condition, Guards Red with Cashmere Leather, 6- speed, 30K original miles, I am the 3rd owner. First owner until 2021. Always garage kept, covered. Two sets of wheels, (17" Cup and 18" Twists), Porsche CoA, nicely optioned, completely original. \$93,000. Located in Venice. [John.mancini52@gmail.com](mailto:John.mancini52@gmail.com) (11/24)

**Porsche PCCM Plus** Classic Communication Management Plus for 996 and 986. Factory radio upgrade system new in box. Retail \$1,500.00. Offered for \$750. Clearwater 703-624-3743 or [prueckerva2000@aol.com](mailto:prueckerva2000@aol.com) (0124)

**2018 Carrera 4 GTS Coupe** - PDK, 9,400 miles, Exterior- Chalk, Interior- Black Leather incl. Alcantara with GTS package, rhodium silver stitching, Bose, 18 way seats, carbon illuminated door sills. Concours condition, single owner, never tracked, remaining factory warranty. \$149,500. Nate, 727-252-4574 (0921)

## PARTS

**DAS Sport Bolt-In Roll Bar for 911 Cabriolet**, Fits 83 to 1989 Cabriolet, Powder Coated Flat Black, Located in Sarasota, Free Delivery in Tampa Area, Retail: \$2,695. Offered at \$925. Text Dale @ 941 356 7871 or [DLh10707@gmail.com](mailto:DLh10707@gmail.com)

**Porsche Carrera all weather cover**. Vinyl with soft fabric lining. Includes security cable and lock. \$150 (shipping not included). Text [Joe @ 561-889-8598](mailto:Joe@561-889-8598). (11/2024)

**Porsche 996 optional 18 x 8 and 10 x 18 twist Set (4) factory wheels** for the 996, part numbers 99336214004 and 99336213601 in very good condition, fronts ET 52mm, rears are ET 65. \$1300.00 or best offer. Call Bob 727-244-3986 or email

[bobing911@aol.com](mailto:bobing911@aol.com) Robert Fabricatore (02/24)

**997 Carrera S Factory Replacement AeroKit** Front Spoiler Lip Apron. Brand New \$300 993/996 Steering Wheel (airbag not included) 993.347.804.54. \$200 993 Front/Rear Black "Lloyd Floor Mats" Imprinted "Porsche" in Red. Like New \$75 [Tbaker6454@gmail.com](mailto:Tbaker6454@gmail.com). 941-545-1122 mobile (02/24)

**Parts - Rennline Ball Seat Wheel Stud Conversion Kit-Porsche Oe Wheels**. Part LSO1 - \$100. 2010 Porsche Cayman S E-brake assembly in sand beige - \$250. [schouston506@gmail.com](mailto:schouston506@gmail.com). 727-260-1855 cell.

## For Sale: Sparco Driving Shoes - New

Style SL-17 Black-Red, Size 45, \$ 76.61  
Text George 727-512-3811 or [ogee125@gmail.com](mailto:ogee125@gmail.com)

**19 inch Forgeline centerlock wheels** with lightly used Pzero slicks for GT3RS. \$3,000.  
Dennis O'Keefe at [deokeefe7@gmail.com](mailto:deokeefe7@gmail.com)

**Looking for garage space for my 993**. Losing current arrangement after January 15th. Looking for something around 4-500 sq ft, preferably in the Clearwater/Central Pinellas area. Marc, 813-804-7914.



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### PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, May/June,  
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### PAYMENT

Invoices will be sent in November. Payments are due by January 31st. Any account unpaid by March 31st will have their ads dropped from future issues and will be responsible for payment for ads in issues already run. Cancellations must be made in writing by the 1st day of the month preceding cover date, i.e. by December 1st for Jan/Feb issue. Ads run for a partial year will be invoiced on a prorata basis. Make payment to Suncoast PCA, and mail to: 6733 16th Av. N St. Petersburg, FL 33710

### AD MATERIAL

Advertisers are responsible for sending final high resolution PDF files to Publisher. New material is due by 1st of month preceding cover date, i.e., April 1st for May/June issue.

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Half Page .....	7.825 x 5"
Quarter Page .....	3.825 x 5"
Business Card .....	3 x 2"

Contact Sally Zimmermann  
[sally@alicejune.com](mailto:sally@alicejune.com)

with suggestions, comments,  
and further information.

Porsche Profile is also on the Suncoast  
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