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EDITOR

Steve Grumbach

dveditor@pcapotomac.org

CO-EDITOR

Jason Aldag

jaldag@pcapotomac.org

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Ken Marks, Mia Walsh, Bill Schwinn,
Ted Hovis, Scott Bowen & Hank Allen

DESIGN

John HR Mills

dvdesigner@pcapotomac.org

COPY EDITOR

Joe Minarik

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Alan French, Glenn Havinovski
& Stu Wirtz

Articles, photos, letters and other
contributions to **DER VORGÄNGER** should
be sent to the editor by the 1st of month
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dveditor@pcapotomac.org. Please send
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please contact Alan French at
advertising@pcapotomac.org

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FRONT COVER PHOTO

Kent Narrows Bridge.
Photo by Scott Bowen.

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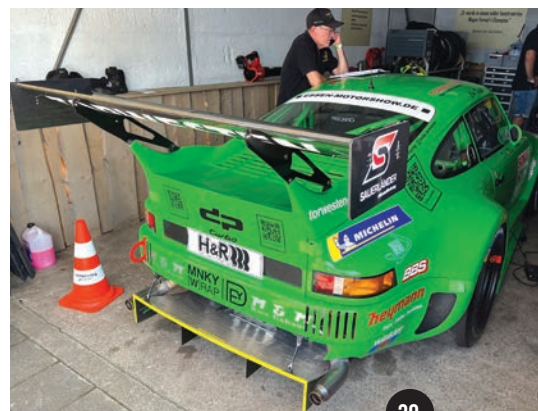
1991 Porsche 911 Carrera 2.
Oak Green Metallic over
Sherwood Green Leather.
Taken in Kensington, MD
by Alfie Moore.



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PCA Potomac HPDE White Group # 78
2001 911 Turbo, 1985 928 S, 2015 Macan S

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The Miles that Matter, for Ourselves and the Community.



Jason Aldag
Co-Editor

As I write this, July 4 is right around the corner. I don't know what my family will be doing yet. Probably burgers and dogs on the grill, fireworks over the nearby lake. And hopefully, I get an hour or two in my Seal Grey 996 Carrera C2. A short taste of that great American tradition, the road trip. We barely bat an eye at a four hour trip behind the wheel. I've done the nine hours from D.C. to Maine in one shot. Easy! I love driving. And I don't even need to be rev matching into a back country sweeper to get that essence of American Freedom.

Which is why I read (and edited) Mark Devine's story about his journey back to his hometown with pleasure. It's a nostalgic, wonderful account of his roots-road-trip, revisiting the places where he became a racing enthusiast and car lover. At one point, he was driving his 911 on the same roads his dad took to Lake

George in Upstate New York with everyone bundled into the family van. I hope you'll forgive the Kerouac-like headline. I couldn't help myself.

And speaking of nostalgia, it's a big year for our club as we celebrate 70 years of autocross, drive and dines, Concours events, and HPDEs among a host of other great opportunities to connect with your cars and fellow club members. That's why this year's PorscheFest promises to be the best one yet. You'll get to do all of those things and more. Heck, just show up and listen to a bunch of Stuttgart power plants scream, take in the sweet smell of racing fuel combusting in four, six, maybe even eight cylinders, and hang out with your fellow Potomacans. I hear there's going to be a BBQ Saturday night, too. Shout out to Kenny Kong and a host of volunteers who make this weekend a blast.

That's another great way to get involved at PorscheFest, volunteer. And Camp Porsche is a great place to start. On Friday, July 25th, our club will again host 30 kids from Jefferson County, West Virginia in partnership with the county's parks and recreation department. Community Service Chair Marcie Calcagno and her new Vice Chair Randi Dutch are looking for volunteers who can be at our home track, Summit Point, around 9:00 a.m. and stay until around 5:00 p.m. I've read that lunch, snacks and t-shirts will be provided. Last year, campers took part in a scavenger hunt in the paddock, tried on track gear, explored race cars, and went for a ride around the track with instructors. Volunteers are also needed to help run charity laps at the end of the day on Saturday, which gives a boost to the good work happening at the Jefferson County Parks & Rec department. I hope to see all of you soon. DV



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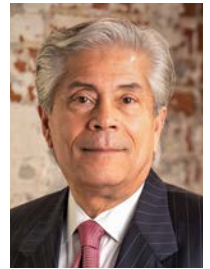
I know this issue of DV will have a lot of information about PorscheFest and our PCA 70th Anniversary celebration, but I want to put in one more plug. By the time you receive this issue, the event will be right around the corner. The event is held at Summit Point Motorsports Park, located just outside Charles Town, West Virginia. It's a relatively easy drive for most of our members, and I can certainly guarantee you a great time, regardless of how you enjoy your Porsche. After all, the real reason we have such a great club is because of the relationships we have all fostered with our fellow members. If you like to drive on the track... we have that for you. If you like to show off your beautiful car... we have that for you. If you'd like to test the handling limits of your car in a controlled space, we have that for you. If you'd like to drive your car on the fantastic roads in our area, we have that for you. If you like barbecue and beverages... we have that for you, too. Personally, I enjoy all of these things, and I particularly enjoy driving on the track (through Drivers Education and Club Racing). However, even when my track car was in the hospital, I still enjoyed going to the track to see my friends have fun. It also gave me a chance to

observe every single section of the track from a very different perspective. Watching cars at speed has always been a great deal of fun for me.

At the time of this writing, we are in the process of planning the event, and the details have not been finalized yet. By the time you receive this in your mailbox, we will have publicized all the fun things we have planned for the weekend. Please seriously consider joining us the weekend of July 25-27!

Last month, I wrote about one of our newest members, Randi Dutch. Here is an update on her: she has now joined forces with Marcie Calcagno (Chair) as Co-Chair of our Community Service Committee. I think we would all agree that we are fortunate to be able to spend our weekends with our cars and friends, so giving back to our communities is something we should all fully support. So, here's the recap on Randi. She attended the Deutsche Marque Concours with her Mercedes, then wandered over to

meet Porsche owners and had a really good time. A few days later, she purchased a Porsche, and a few days after that, she attended our Open Board Meeting at Intersport in Ashburn, requesting to address the membership. A couple of weeks after that, she is volunteering as a Co-Chair of a committee. What a whirlwind 30 days! I said you would hear more from her soon, and I wasn't lying! Consider volunteering, as it's a fantastic way to meet new friends and truly get the most out of your membership! DV



Don Mattran
President



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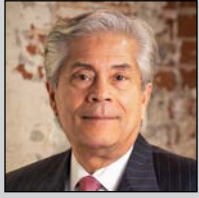




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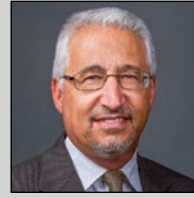
VICE PRESIDENT

Alan French
vicepresident@pcapotomac.org



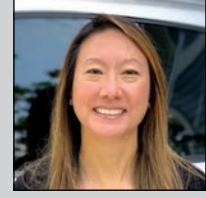
SECRETARY

Kenny Kong
secretary@pcapotomac.org



TREASURER

Stephen Kiraly
treasurer@pcapotomac.org



PAST PRESIDENT

Diane Sullenberger
pastpresident@pcapotomac.org

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERS

AUTOCROSS

Paul Brockman & Mike Trusty
autocross@pcapotomac.org

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Marcie Calcagno & Randi Dutch
communityservice@pcapotomac.org

CONCOURS

Paul Vessels & Percy White Jr.
concours@pcapotomac.org

DRIVE & DINE

Mike & Jackie Peters
driveanddine@pcapotomac.org

CLUB RACE

Allie Conley & Glenn Wolthuis
clubrace@pcapotomac.org

TEEN DRIVING SCHOOL

Doug Hough & Wendy Chetney
streetsurvival@pcapotomac.org

DRIVER EDUCATION

Chairs

Bob Mulligan & David Dean
dechair@pcapotomac.org

Instructor Development

Ron Tilton and Henrik Ojikutu
ron.tilton@pcapotomac.org

Registrars

David Evans, Henrik Ojikutu
& Joceyln Lasher
deregistrar@pcapotomac.org

Track Registrar

Kenny Kong
trackregistrar@pcapotomac.org

Cashier

Carol Palitti
decashier@pcapotomac.org

New Driver Ambassador

Lara Peirce & Jim Musgrave
driverambassador@pcapotomac.org

Tech Inspection

David DiQuollo, Daniel Salsbury
& Ken Larson
tech@pcapotomac.org

Track Stewards

Tim Kearns, Dirk Dekker,
Stephen Kiraly & Davis Eastman
tracksteward@pcapotomac.org

Chief instructors

Sean Reiche, Colleen Reiche,
Mark Salvador & Brian Walsh
chiefinstructor@pcapotomac.org

PorscheFest Coordinators

Kenny Kong, Carol Palitti &
Lou Bartolo
kkong@pcapotomac.org

Track Coordinator

Ron Tilton & Jordan Applebaum
trackrentals@pcapotomac.org

Women's HPDC

Colleen Reiche
colleen.reiche@pcapotomac.org

HISTORIAN

George Whitmore
historian@pcapotomac.org

MEMBERSHIP

Allie Conley & Christina Widodo
membership@pcapotomac.org

SOCIAL

Lou Bartolo
social@pcapotomac.org

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Lauren Tilton
volunteer@pcapotomac.org

LEGAL OFFICER

Gary Sidell
legal@pcapotomac.org

RALLY

OPEN
rally@pcapotomac.org

SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

Bill Schwinn
socialmedia@pcapotomac.org

WEBMASTER

Ron Flax
webmaster@pcapotomac.org

SAFETY

Dirk Dekker
safety@pcapotomac.org

SPONSORSHIPS

Bob Simmons & Steve Lebowitz
sponsor@pcapotomac.org

DER VORGÄNGER

Editor

Steve Grumbach
dveditor@pcapotomac.org

Advertising

Alan French
advertising@pcapotomac.org

Copy Editor

Joe Minarik
jminarik2@aol.com

Design

John HR Mills
dvdesigner@pcapotomac.org

Co-Editor

Jason Aldag
jaldag@pcapotomac.org

ZONE 2 REP

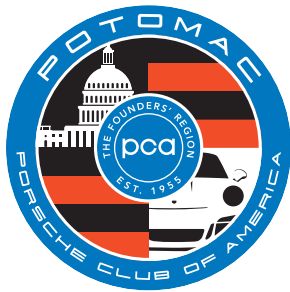
Phil Grandfield
zone2reppca@gmail.com

NATIONAL SAFETY

Dan Dazzo
safety@pca.org

NATIONAL HPDE CHAIR

Mia Walsh
mia@pcapotomac.org



CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

The information on this page is accurate as of date of publication. Check Potomac's website at **pcapotomac.org** for further information and the most up-to-date information.

JULY



19 Social: Maryland Monthly Brunch,
Irish Inn, Glen Echo, MD



20 Drive & Dine: Virginia Highlands
Tour 2025, The Inn at Gristmill
Square, Warm Springs, VA



25-27 Potomac's Porschefest at
Summit Point, Summit Point, WV



25-27 Driver Education: Potomac's
PorscheFest DE, Summit Point –
Main Circuit, Summit Point, WV



26 Autocross: Potomac Autocross #5,
Summit Point – Washington Circuit,
Summit Point, WV

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT

Open Club Leadership Roles

The success of our region is largely driven by our amazing volunteers. Helping friends and new members to learn skills and insights into our Porsches - while creating a fun place to be at the weekends - is enormously rewarding.

We have several open leadership positions. Reach out to the following to find out more:

- **Rally Committee Member,**
Contact Don Mattran,
president@pcapotomac.org

As the saying goes, volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless!

Thank you, all program leaders and volunteers. You make Potomac the best PCA region in the country.

POTOMAC MONTHLY BRUNCHES & LUNCHES

Potomac brunches and lunches are an excellent way to (a) have a tasty meal, and (b) make new Porsche friends or renew old friendships. Meetings are low-key with no agenda.

VIRGINIA

First Saturday of each month, 11:00 am
Firebird's Wood-Fired Grille
14020 Promenade Commons St.
Gainesville, VA

MARYLAND

Third Saturday of each month, 11:00 am
The Irish Inn
6119 Tulane Ave.
Glen Echo, MD 20812

AUGUST



2 Community Service: Cars & Coffee
Open House at TPC Racing for the
Erin Levitas Foundation, Jessup, MD



2 Social: Virginia Monthly Brunch,
Firebirds Wood Fired Grill,
Gainesville, VA



16 Social: Maryland Monthly Brunch,
Irish Inn, Glen Echo, MD



23 Autocross: Potomac Autocross #6,
Summit Point – Washington Circuit,
Summit Point, WV

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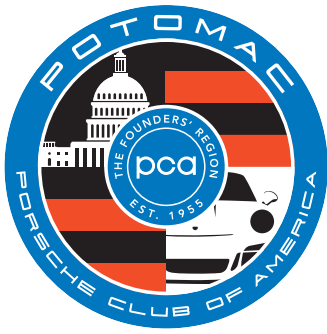
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POTOMAC PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

DRIVE & DINE



Group 3 winds through an S-curve along the route in Prince William County.

DRIVE & DINE TO THE BLACK SHEEP RESTAURANT

STORY BY **JACKIE AND SHAWN PETERS**

PHOTOS BY **BETH MAUCH AND MIKE PETERS**

Everything was in order: road conditions and weather were favorable, routes and maps were on hand, speed waivers had been obtained, leads and sweeps had been briefed, and the roll call was complete.

PCA Potomac's Drive & Dine (D&D) event on May 18th was a hit! Seventy participants and 38 amazing cars turned up for the second D&D of 2025, embarking on a two-hour tour. The first leg of our drive took us through the backroads of Fairfax County, passing through the small, charming town of Clifton. We drove through twisting roads, organized into four groups of Porsches (one McLaren) with designated lead, sweep, and relay drivers to ensure everyone's safety and stay on the planned route.

After a 15-minute break, we set off on the second leg, cruising for another hour. This time, we headed west along the edge of Prince William County, VA, passing through the hamlets of Brentsville and Greenwich. It was a scenic ride with some great stretches of road, allowing us to appreciate the rural charm of the area.

We finally arrived at our destination, The Black Sheep Restaurant in Manassas, VA, at around 11 o'clock. This place is a real gem, a local favorite that won "The Best of Virginia 2025: Fine Dining award". We had booked the Mason room and the outside patio for a delicious brunch. There was something for everyone, from chicken & waffles to freshly baked pastries.



The group assembled in front of The Black Sheep restaurant. Let's eat!



First time Drive & Diners: Front row L/R: Robert Skalamer, Debi Skalamera, Terry Abrams, Mark Abrams, David Groves, and Filiz Groves. Back row: Colin Schwartz, Kevin Schwartz and Ian Foster.



Group Lead Ric Segovia is just bananas for his 911!

This was a great opportunity not only to catch up with old friends but also to make some new ones. We had a mix of regulars and fresh faces who had never attended a D&D Event before.

In the April edition of our club's magazine, DER VORGANGER, PCA Potomac President Don Mattran discussed the club's goal of "cross-pollination" between programs. "It's a bit like a family with different branches..." said Mattran. And this D&D event was a perfect example of that! We had seasoned DE driver Mark Abrams and his wife, Terry, attending their first D&D. They were joined by other first-timers: Ian and Karen Fosler, David and Filiz Groves, Colin and Erin Schwartz, Kevin

and Noreen Schwartz, Robert and Deborah Skalamera, and Andy and Mabel Stone.

But wait, there's more! After hearing the announcement that PCA Potomac All Women's HPCD would now allow Macans, Kassidy Schmitz's excitement led her to sign up for the September event. She'll be tearing it up in her Macan GTS. The day was a testament to spreading Porsche passion, new experiences and strengthening our bonds of club fellowship. **DV**

CONCOURS



John Greer in his 1959 356 arrives ahead of Matthew Hussey, in his 1984 911 3.2 Carrera.

CONCOURS CREEK'S EDGE WINERY

STORY BY **PAUL VESSELS**

PHOTOS BY **PAUL JOHNSTON AND STEVE GRUMBACH**

On Sunday, June 8th, the Third Annual Founder's Region Concours returned with a new location, Creek's Edge Winery in Lovettsville, VA, featuring the addition of a Drive and Dine to conclude at the concours, and, yes, you guessed it, more rain!

As luck would have it, the day began with a hazy sky, which soon turned overcast slightly after my wonderful drive and early arrival at Creek's Edge. However, the rain appeared to hold off for the morning, as one by one the concours participants began to appear and take their place upon the field... and a nicely manicured field it was!

Planning an event like this requires a significant undertaking from many people, all of whom can be dashed in a moment by Mother Nature. Given the rainy season we've had over the last couple of years, which significantly

impacts the concours, it poses several challenges. However, the many thanks from those attending and the increased chance of winning a trophy that awaited owners who braved the conditions made it all worthwhile.

Judging was pretty quick and easy, given the number of participants who opted to stay home due to the expected showers. As the owner of several vintage cars, I clearly understand the hesitancy of bringing a nicely prepared vehicle out into the rain. However, I still have to ask, what if you were out in your Porsche and it started raining, the car got wet, and you had to drive home from wherever you were? Isn't this the same thing? The only difference I see is you didn't get to enjoy the camaraderie of like-minded individuals, you didn't compete, nor did you receive an award... and you still got wet! Besides, what better way to test that wax and polish



The Concours showfield featured a wide variety of 911s of all eras.



Glenn Havinovski proudly holds his First Place trophy for his 2024 911 Carrera T.



Early arrivals, undeterred by the inclement weather, start to populate the show field for the concours.

you've been building up, or that \$1000 Ceramic coating you had applied? Wipers working properly?

With that, I have to once again tip my hat to the diehards that show-up regardless – especially the classics, cars that have been restored, or in some cases are very original, as well as to the later model owners who are enjoying these beauties as they are meant to be – Rain or Shine!

The Drive and Dine group began to arrive around 11:30, and I think they may have brought the weather along with them – we have to put the blame somewhere, as the rain then began to pick up shortly after their arrival. It was an enthusiastic group that was beaming about how much fun they had on the drive.

And then, of course, there was Creek's Edge Winery. A uniquely quaint Amish structure featuring locally sourced material such as stone, black walnut, and other hardwoods. The dining room, observation deck, and pavilion are all nicely crafted. Did I mention the food? And then, of course, there's the wine, after all! www.creeksedgewinery.com

We want to thank both the owner, Tedd Durden, and the team of the Creek's Edge Winery for hosting us, as well as Kevin Maharaj and the team from D & V Autobody for their sponsorship of the Concours Program this year! And lastly, we want to thank our volunteer judges, and the hearty souls who show up and participate in concours be it "Rain or Shine!" DV

DRIVE & DINE



Jim and Marydonna Henry's Boxster S leads a drive group upon arrival at Creek's Edge Winery.

MEET UP DRIVE TO CREEK'S EDGE WINERY

STORY AND PHOTOS BY **ANN AND STEVE STURNER**

The grey skies didn't dampen the enthusiasm as 32 cars and 50 Potomacans gathered in Chantilly on Sunday, June 8th, to start the drive to Creek's Edge Winery near Lovettsville, VA. Mike Peters, Steve, and Ann Sturner welcomed both experienced and new Drive & Diners, briefed them about the rules and the route before they headed off on their 65-mile journey. The four drive groups, led by Steve Sturner, Steve Kaye, Harry Horning, and LeRoy Mills, were assisted by Brian Berry, Max Moser, Andrew Talmadge, Henry James, Jim Moser, and Mike Peters as the sweeps and mids. The route began in suburbia but quickly transitioned to the countryside.

After passing through a neighborhood of beautiful houses, the cars kicked it up a notch on a rolling straightaway before the roads became more narrow and twisty, precisely

what all were looking forward to. As the veteran Dine & Drivers knew, it wouldn't be a Dine & Drive without passing near Middleburg, so we made sure to get that into the route. However, for a change of pace, the group then headed north into new territory towards Purcellville, and then further north to the winery.

Although the skies remained grey, the rain held off, allowing the drivers and their passengers to still enjoy views of the mountains, beautiful horse farms, rolling hills, and more twists and turns. After a brief rest stop in Purcellville, the drivers were back on the road for the last 15 miles of the drive. The small town of Waterford kept the Porsches to parade speed at 20 mph, but the cars then stretched their legs once more before entering the winery.



It's always a good day for a drive to a dine destination!



D&D run groups assembled outside the winery and found comfort and fellowship inside!



Potomacans wisely sought the dry comfort, fellowship, and hospitality while sampling the fare inside the Creek's Edge Winery. Pictured left to right: Sharad Singh, Rajiv Khandpur, Jackie Peters, Percy White, and Andrew and Christine Talmadge.

The drivers claimed their parking spots (making sure to get all the Porsches together) and then went to check out the cars displayed on the beautiful green lawn at the Potomac-sponsored Concours. The threat of rain did not deter the hardy participants.

Creek's Edge Winery welcomed the group to their beautiful dining room and deck, which provided shelter from the rain that arrived once the drive was done. Drivers were on their own for food and drinks, with many electing to sample the winery's offerings. Flatbreads, charcuterie boards, and various appetizers adorned the tables, accompanied by wine flights and glasses of wine.

Although everyone wished for a sunnier day, all agreed it was still an enjoyable drive, and it was great to see old friends and make new ones. **DV**



D&D group parking at Creek's Edge Winery.

COMMUNITY SERVICE



(L/R) Montgomery College Professor Mike Carretta, Daniel Gonzalez, Ieuan Richards, Jacqueline Crucillo, and PCA Potomac Community Service Chair Marcie Calcagno.

AND THE 2025 PCA TOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES ARE....

STORY AND PHOTO BY **MARCIE CALCAGNO**

The PCA Founder's Region is excited to announce the recipients of this year's Tool Scholarship. Ieuan Richards, Jacqueline Crucillo, and Daniel Gonzalez, graduating students from the Montgomery College Automotive Technology Program, all demonstrated a dedication to the automotive industry and academic excellence, earning a well-deserved Associate's degree. They were presented with the scholarship awards on June 26th. The scholarship recipients expressed appreciation and enthusiasm for the tool scholarship, which will help launch their careers as Automotive Technicians. As Montgomery College students in the Automotive Technology Program, Snap-On Tools will match the Tool Scholarship award from PCA Potomac, doubling the impact of this scholarship for these future automotive technicians.

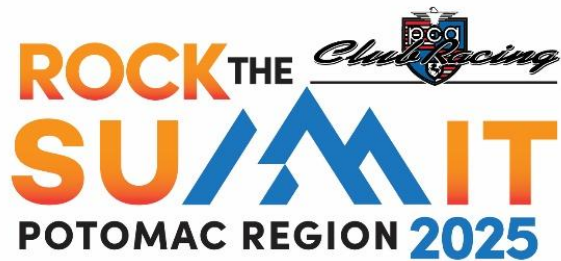
Professor Mike Carretta, Director of the Montgomery College Automotive Technology Program, spoke highly of the Tool Scholarship recipients, describing them as dedicated and hardworking students in the program.

Thanks to the generous donations from PCA Potomac members, \$ 2,500 was raised for this community service endeavor. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Montgomery College, including the annual awarding of the Tool Scholarship(s) and collaboration on future automotive-related activities.

Congratulations to the Tool Scholarship awardees and to the PCA members who made this scholarship possible. **DV**



September 12-14, Summit Point, WV
PCA Potomac Presents:



Sprint & Enduro Races
Vintage Group Races
Charity Events
Happy Hours
BBQ Dinner

For more information, email
clubrace@pcapotomac.org
or scan this QR Code:



Volunteer Registration Opens Saturday, July 12th



Flagging & Grid
Hospitality
Emergency Vehicles
Paddock
Registration
Scales & Timing

For more information, email
clubrace@pcapotomac.org
or scan this QR Code:



DRIVE & DINE



The group poses for a photo in front of the Graceland Inn restaurant in Elkins, WV, before lunch.

TAKE ME HOME, COUNTRY ROADS

WILD WUNDERBAR TOUR, WV

STORY BY **ALAN FRENCH**

PHOTOS BY **BILLY BENNETT, JACKIE PETERS, AND GLENN HAVINOVISKI**

There is something special about hitting the road and meeting up with old friends for the weekend. Add the thrill of driving your Porsche on mountain roads, enjoying good food and beverages, meeting new members, and you have a heady cocktail of experiences with a long, smooth finish of daydreams for weeks afterwards.

My wife Sarah and I had missed our regular drive-and-dine trips, so this year, we signed up for the Wild Wunderbar weekend tour to the Stonewall Resort in West Virginia's Wild and Wonderful region.



Evenings at the resort were graced with the camaraderie of fellow tour members. Here are Wade and Tora Woolfrey, Susie and Billy Bennett, Ricardo and Maryann Segovia, Nancie and Glenn Havinovski.



The lodge provided a very welcoming greeting.



Touring on Saturday, groups one and two enjoy a brief stop in historic Webster Springs, WV.

Our tour mixologists for the second running of the Wild Wunderbar Tour were Jackie and Mike Peters, Chairs of our Potomac Drive & Dine program. This was a very polished event, with every detail and courtesy planned and executed

with precision, fun, and warmth of friendship. Mr. and Mrs. Peters deserve considerable credit for conceiving this trip and providing us with the benefit of their months of research, planning, and organizational skills.



On the banks of West Fork River inside Stonewall Jackson Lake Wildlife Management Area, the Stonewall Resort near Roanoke, WV, served as the host venue for the Wild & Wunderbar tour's weekend.

Twenty-three Porsches, one Lotus, and a McLaren, met in Gainesville, VA, on Friday morning, June 13th. We were organized into three drive groups with "leads, sweeps, and mids" to guide us on our trip. It takes a dedicated team of well-prepared volunteers to keep us on track, safe, and facilitate a relaxed, fun event. Thanks go to:

Jeffrey & Paula Vonasek, LeRoy & Marilyn Mills, Steven & Ann Sturner, Ric & MaryAnn Segovia, Charles & Michelle Mandolia, Brian & Stephanie Berry, Glenn & Nancie Havinoviski, Jim & Gina Moser, and Billy & Suzie Bennett.

Heading west to Luray, passing over Skyline Drive, we met friends from the PCA Shenandoah region, who had gathered with 27 cars in all. We wound our way to the beautiful Graceland Inn restaurant in Elkins, WV, for lunch. No Elvis, but the excellent lunch and a five-star welcome and service, sure got some hips gyrating.

After the Graceland Inn, we headed through the mountains to the Stonewall Resort near Roanoke, WV, our lakeside oasis for the weekend. Again, a wonderful welcome, with the Porsche emblem projected onto the lobby floor for the duration of our stay.

On Saturday, six plus hours of excellent mountain driving, stunning views, with lunch and retail opportunities at Snowshoe, and then an eventful group dinner on Saturday evening.

I asked participants to share some of their highlights of the weekend:

"I'm pretty sure Wendy's was her Spa visit Saturday morning while I was out on the (awesome) drive. While the driving is always good, I particularly enjoyed meeting & hanging with some awesome folks throughout the weekend!" – Kelly

"As with any PCA Potomac ride, it was fantastic in meeting new ride participants!" – Ric



We had reserved parking at the Stonewall Resort.

"As with any PCA Potomac ride, it was fantastic in meeting new ride participants!" – Ric

"Sam and I really enjoyed driving past the Greenbank Observatory. I believe it was in the town of Greenbank where someone called on the radio, "Hey look at all those Porsches!" That surprised us because we expected radio silence around those parts." – James

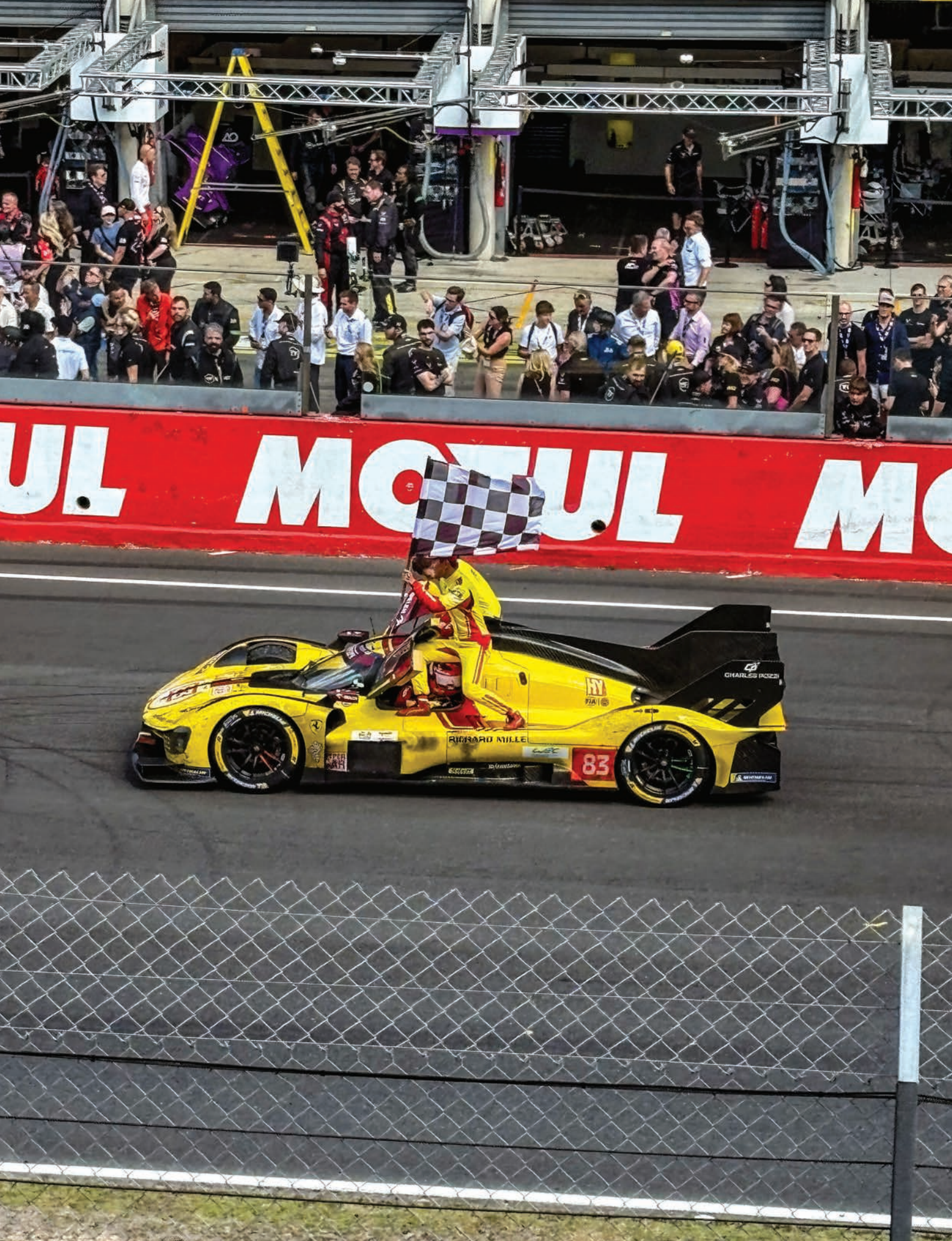
"We enjoyed the beautiful landscape as we drove through the Highlands on the way to the resort and to Snowshoe. We also felt that The Stonewall Resort provided a quiet, relaxing lakeside location, which we were able to enjoy on Sunday." – LeRoy

"Pink lemonade on the patio; a 'cool down lap' vibe with refreshments and stories from the weekend." – Aaron

Mountain mama will come calling again next year. Be ready to sign up. DV



Saturday Dinner at the resort.





Left page: The joy of winning the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

Left: The #6 Porsche Penske Motorsports #6 963 waiting to put its 671 hp to good use.

Below: Sacre bleu! In France?



A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO ATTENDING THE 24 HOURS OF LE MANS

STORY AND PHOTOS BY **PETER KRAWCHYK**

ATTENDING THE EVENT

Combining Father's Day and a milestone birthday, my son and I travelled to France to attend the 93rd running of the 24 Hours of Le Mans. We decided to attend the event as individual spectators instead of in a group excursion to make our own choices among the various track events. We also wanted to experience the entire race week, rather than just the race itself, to see the teams' preparations for the race.

Due to our travel schedule, we missed the scrutineering and initial practice session, arriving at the track the Tuesday before the event. The only way I can describe the first impression is a mixture of excitement and awe. The size of the venue, with its many grandstands and other facilities, is

immense, and we were only seeing the front straight! As the Tuesday before the race is the Pit Walk/Pit Challenge event, we immediately joined those. I highly recommend choosing these tickets to meet the team members, see the cars up close, and stand on the starting grid, imagining what it must be like to start the race with the Dunlop Curves ahead of you.

What was surprising was the length of the pit row – 775 feet, or over 2 ½ football fields – compared to the size of an individual pit box – about a one-car garage. For those readers fortunate enough to have a collection of Porsches, imagine having 62 race-ready cars to choose from. And did you know you can sign the start/finish line?



Porsche's "Kings of the Nürburgring:" the #2 956 lap record holder at 6:11.13 in 1983, driven by Stefan Belloff (model in supersized 1:12 scale); and the #1 919, driven by Timo Bernhard to a 5:19.6 lap in 2018.

Wednesday and Thursday of race week combine free practice sessions and qualifying events. This is when one truly experiences the speed, power, and agility of the cars, especially the Hypercar class. And due to the historic nature of the track, unlike FI's design requirements, one can stand within 15-20 yards of the track. Talk about really feeling the speed of these racers as they navigate the turns!

Another advantage of attending these initial events is the opportunity to witness a lot of pit action. We decided to purchase grandstand seats and thus were directly across from the paddock. Seeing the cars come in and out for quick adjustments or driver changes was a plus. Another plus was watching the pits at the beginning of each qualifying session. It's a mini-race; all the qualifying classes wait in their pit spaces with their engines running. Then at the same moment, they race to line up at the pit exit. The sound of 40+ cars moving at once is something not to miss.

On race day, the atmosphere of the venue is both magical and magnetic. The best way I can describe the event is it is a world-class event with a state fair attached. The majority of the crowd are seated in folding chairs surrounding the track. The immense 8.3 mile track is carved through private lands, including farms, so you can only watch the race from some portions. It's worthwhile to see the race from different vantage points – we chose the front straight, the Dunlop Curves, and Tertre Rouge as our viewing locations.

The pinnacle of the race, though, was the finale. It's difficult to describe the emotional impact, the crowd's joy, at having Robert Kubica win the race for Ferrari – the ultimate reward for his perseverance in the face of motorsport adversity. Seeing Polish flags waving in front of the podium and hearing the winning drivers singing the Italian national anthem along with thousands of fans was the highlight of the event. It compensated for the heartbreak of a Porsche fan watching his team come in second by 14 seconds, after starting last in class due to a penalty during qualifying.

It was an historic running of the 24 hours. Ferrari's third consecutive win, and by the non-factory team, the first Polish (Kubica) and Chinese (Ye) drivers to ever win Le Mans, and no rain (!) made for a thrilling ending to a special motorsports week.

If You Go...

TICKETS

Tickets are available for purchase online in November. Members of the A.C.O (the club that runs the event) are able to purchase tickets before the general public. You can choose to attend the week's events, or just the race. But if you have a reserved seat, the ACO decides the actual seats to assign; you can only choose up to three of the seating areas as options. But be forewarned: This year, the tickets sold out to A.C.O. members within one day! So if you really want to go next year, join up early, and pounce on the website immediately



Autographing the start/finish line.



Spectators on the front straight.

on ticket-release day. If you decide to go later, however, you might luck out by checking a tour company – Grand Prix Tours is one example – that might have unsold places. And because the separate tickets for sessions other than the race sell more slowly, you could add them to a place in a tour to see more of the event.

Another very important purchase is parking. Parking is at a premium for the weekend. Unless you want to walk miles (trust me, I know) you should try and purchase a parking pass. But if you have good walking boots and cushioned socks, you can save the hassle price of a rental car and parking by using the tram from downtown in Le Mans to the track.

If your plans change you can resell your tickets (or purchase others). But there is no 3rd party option (StubHub, etc) for this. All ticket sales must go thru the ACO website.

ACCOMMODATIONS

As we learned, housing may be the first step in planning to attend. Many local accommodations are sold out before November (probably from the day after the previous race ends). Because we planned on a few day trips during our week, we widened our search to a 50 mile radius, and we were able to find a very nice apartment in a nearby small town. But if you don't want to rent a car, you will need to rent in or very near Le Mans itself. It is possible to fly into Paris and take a train to the station in Le Mans proper. But again, you will need to act early.

LANGUAGE

Do not expect everyone to speak fluent English, or even intermediate English. In fact, by luck or chance we never encountered a fluent English speaker. For us this added to the atmosphere of the 24 Hours as truly being a French event. I had to adapt my 'point and shoot' technique to ordering from the concessionaires. But everyone was extremely polite, kind, and there were many mutual laughs over trying to communicate with each other.

VENUE

The size of the Circuit de la Sarthe is difficult to comprehend. Don't expect to see the entire race. But you can choose different locations during the race to watch the cars. Just plan on walking a lot. There are some small shuttles run around the track by the organizers, but they can be hard to find – especially at night – and you will need to do some on-site research to make effective use of them.

As for food, merch, etc. the circuit is organized around different 'villages' with different food options and merchandisers. Food options ranged from baguettes with ham and butter (jambon beurre) to North Carolina BBQ (yes, really). Nearly all were delicious. **DV**



 **Interlaken**
A Resort and Conference Center *Inn*

Left page: The Interlaken Inn in Lakeville, Connecticut, tucked between the Wononskopomuc and Wononpakook Lakes, has hosted countless drivers and racing fans headed to nearby Lime Rock Park.



Mark's high school in Scotia, New York.

ON THE ROAD WITH A 911 CARRERA, AND THE GHOSTS OF HOME

STORY AND PHOTOS BY **MARK DEVINE**

THE CALL OF THE ROAD

In the spring of 2022, after a long winter, I needed to get out, hit the road. Wandering around and getting lost is one of my strongest skills, a road trip to old haunts would be perfect. My only companion would be my 2008 911 Carrera, a car as suited to the open road as any car could be.

Leaving the suburban clog of northern Virginia, I headed north on Route 15, through Maryland's rolling hills. By the time I reached Pennsylvania the architecture gave way to a distinctly Northeastern feel. Blocks of older homes converted to businesses and row houses built right on the street slid by.

I was heading toward the Finger Lakes region in Upstate New York. My first stop was the southern end of Seneca

Lake. Watkins Glen, famous for its gorge, lake views, and motorsports legacy. A mecca for premier sports car racing ever since enthusiasts took to local public roads in 1948.

I've been visiting the track since the early '70s, even took my son to a Formula 1 race there in 1977 when he was five.

This time I stayed at the Seneca Lodge, a rustic, analog throwback nestled above town. Dinner was served by local high school and college kids. Check-in was done by hand. The bar, a trove of motorsport memorabilia and college pennants, was like stepping into a living museum. It was the perfect end to my first day on the road.



One of the only times 2008 911 Carreras will float is onboard ferries like this one crossing Lake Champlain from Plattsburgh, New York to Grand Isle, Vermont.

A TRIP BACK IN TIME

The next morning, I took the back roads, bound for Scotia, a small town near Schenectady where I spent my high school years in the 1960s. I drove through Ithaca, the Carrera purring along perfectly, providing its own soundtrack. No need for the radio or CDs. Memories flooded back passing through towns with names like Schoharie and Herkimer,

Crossing over the Mohawk river, Scotia felt frozen in time. Familiar but alien at the same time. The art-house cinema, the bowling alley, the diner were all still there. I looked for an old girlfriend's house but couldn't find the street.

In many ways it was and still is "home." Fond memories like the huge event when the first Mustang was unveiled at the local Ford dealer. I visited my old school, walked familiar routes, had a burger and a Genny Cream Ale at The Village Tavern. The local hobby shop was a second home to me with slot car racing, models, and monthly car magazines about far-away places like Monte Carlo, Le Mans, Monza, and even Watkins Glen. Very heady stuff for a 13-year-old in northern New York.

Heading out of town, I followed a deeply personal route along Lake George, a stretch of road I'd traveled as a kid with my family. We'd day trip there, all seven of us crammed into my father's van. If you could last two minutes in the water, your whole body went numb the water was that cold.

Back then, I imagined myself driving that very road in a silver Porsche. And here I was, in a grey 911 with a black leather interior, on that same road. That was certainly a big checkmark on my all-time bucket list. Feeling chills and smiling like an idiot, it was one of life's special moments.



The bar at the Seneca Lodge pays homage to nearby Watkins Glen International with a wall of antique racing signs, F1 laurels and even racing tyres (sic).

THE ROAD BACK

From Lake George I headed to Plattsburgh for the night finding a bare-bones hotel with a delicious and lively restaurant nearby. I took the ferry across Lake Champlain to Vermont. Hitting Burlington, Middlebury, and finally Keene, New Hampshire, a college town I'd always loved.

Plans changed suddenly with a call from my sister. Her husband had been hospitalized, and I headed straight to Massachusetts. Even though I've been transplanted to Virginia for 40 years, all my relatives still live there. I did what I could to help, keeping her company and running errands. No matter how long I extended my stay, however, I knew it would be temporary. It was good to see my sister surrounded with the love and help she and her husband needed.

As I left, I vowed not to let the return leg become a frantic dash. I took backroads through the Berkshires, Litchfield Hills, and Hudson River Valley. Familiar places. My wife and I had driven them together in years past. Lakeville, the Interlaken Inn, Lime Rock Park.

This Inn and the track held many memories for me; campaigning a race car with my boss, group caravans to attend races, and business events at the track. It felt good to pass through there one more time, especially on such a beautiful day.

Eventually, I landed in Monroe, NY, where I spent my early childhood. It looked different, more overgrown, smaller. I was glad I hadn't changed.



You can get a hamburger for just four bucks at Jumpin' Jack's Diner on the banks of the Mohawk River in Scotia.

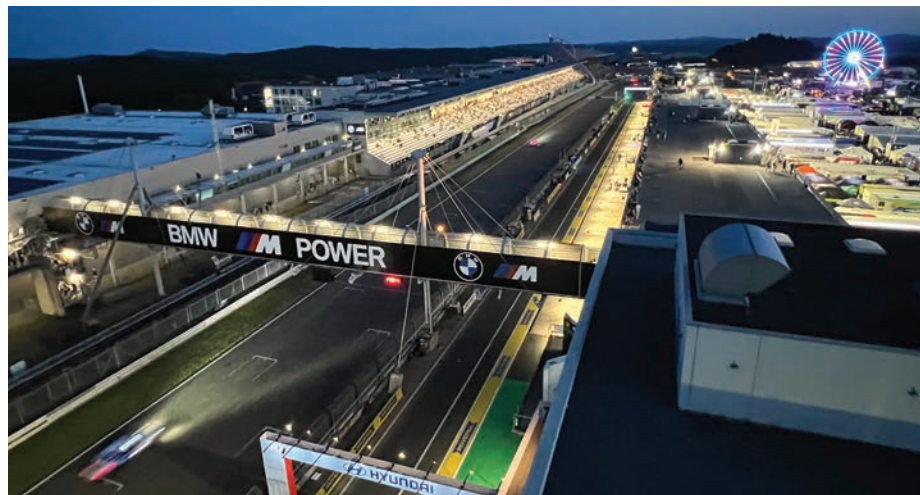
TRIP THROUGH TIME AND SPACE, TO HOME

In New Jersey, my GPS treated me to some of the best roads I had encountered during this entire trip. Laced over the Ramapo mountains, the twists and turns made pretzels seem straight. What an unexpected treat and the car gobbled the miles up with relish.

The 911 was a steadfast partner throughout the trip, fast, reliable, and deeply comforting. A machine, yes, but one with soul.

Pulling into my driveway, I felt that bittersweet end-of-journey feeling. The trip had been more than I hoped. I wasn't looking for any deep truths on this trip but it did make me think about the concept of home.

Someone actually wrote that you can't go there again. For me, it's where the heart is and I think you can go there anytime you want. Yes, it might look a bit different and the faces unfamiliar but that's too literal. To me, home is all the people and places where I lived that formed who I am now. To me, that's the essence of any great road trip, it releases you to travel through both time and space and this one was perfect. DV





A view of the town wall of Bad Münstereifel where we stayed for race week.

Left page, clockwise from top left: **Photo 1** Just some of the carnage from the overnight racing. **Photo 2** A Manthey prepared 992 GT3 RS. **Photo 3** Alex with his newly acquired hardware flanked by Aaron Kobilis (left) and me. **Photo 4** View of the starting grid/pit lane straight from the Black Falcon lounge as the night racing begins. **Photo 5** Ethan and me walking the Carousel! **Photo 6** The double decker Radio Wippermann trackside mobile tailgate lounge. **Photo 7** Final preparations being made on the Black Falcon Porsche 911 GT3 R to run in the SP9 class. **Photo 8** Alex crossing the finish line in his BMW M4 GT4 to take P1 in the SP10 class!



A 1963 904 Carrera GTS at the Porsche Museum. One of my absolute favorite Porsches. It is much smaller than I expected in person.

NÜRBURGRING 24 HOURS

A FATHER-SON ADVENTURE

STORY AND PHOTOS BY **JOHN MILLS**

We decided to plan an epic motorsports trip to celebrate our son Ethan's high school graduation. His mom, Cathy, likes cars alright but realized pretty quickly that 10 days of nothing but cars was going beyond her limit of interest, so she bid us "go have fun boys". We have a friend and Arlington resident, Alex Vasilescu, that was going to be racing his BMW M4 GT4 in the Nürburgring 24 Hours who graciously offered to host us. So, we planned our trip around watching him race at arguably one of the most challenging races in motorsports, on a circuit affectionately referred to as the "Green Hell".

We started the trip a week before the race so we could work in some other car related activities. We flew into Munich and rented a BMW Sportwagon to get around. We stayed one night in Munich walking distance to the Marienplatz where we enjoyed our first delicious German meal of many.

Next, we set off for Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen where we stayed walking distance to the Porsche Museum. That night, we had the best meal of the trip at Christophorus, Porsche's signature restaurant that is located in museum building.

The next morning, we started activities by going to the nearby Mercedes-Benz Museum which hosts Classics & Coffee on Sundays from April 13 until October 12 in 2025! As we arrived, we very quickly figured out that there was a European meet of Lamborghini Countach, with cars coming from as far as the UK, Berlin and the Netherlands. Next stop was the Porsche Museum which lived up to our high expectations.

We drove to Heidelberg by way of Böblingen where we had a fantastic lunch at Brauhaus Schönbuch. It was definitely worth the 30 minute drive out of the way. We spent Sunday night in Heidelberg's Altstadt (Old Town). We watched the Formula 1 Canadian GP that night with some locals in a pub. There may have been some Jägermeister shots involved!

Monday morning, we headed to what would be our home base for race week. We stayed in the walled medieval town of Bad Münstereifel, which was established in the ninth century. It is located about forty minutes from the Nürburgring, so we enjoyed epic drives each day on pristine German b-roads filled with perfectly banked twisties!



A legendary BMW 3.0 CSL Group 4 "Batmobile" wearing the factory Motorsport livery at the BMW Museum in Munich.



A rare and early Lamborghini Countach LP400 "Periscopio". One of about 20 Countach from around Europe that attended the Sunday Classics & Coffee hosted by the Mercedes-Benz Museum in Stuttgart.



Silver Arrows – one of the many impressive exhibits at the Mercedes-Benz Museum.

We joined Alex and his family on Tuesday afternoon to pick up our credentials and get the lay of the land. We had an early dinner at Pistenklause, which sits within the Nordschleife in the quaint town of Nurburg. It's connected to Am Tiergarten, which is a well known hotel owned by the Schmitz family of the famous Sabine Schmitz "Queen of the Ring".

After dinner Tuesday evening, we got a tour of some of the campgrounds that run the entire outside perimeter of 25 kilometer Nordschleife circuit. The Germans go all-in on their tailgating, setting up a full week before the race to secure their preferred spots trackside. Their rigs were really impressive, some of which were double decker trailers with generators, bier on tap, satellite feeds and big screen TVs. Many had fire pits, LED light shows and very loud music blaring. I asked Alex if he could hear the music from the racecar. He replied "absolutely...and they shoot fireworks and set off smoke clouds that make it onto the track". Crazy stuff!

After visiting a few camp sites and sharing a bier with some new friends, we got a rare opportunity to walk Nürburgring's world famous Caracciola Carousel!

On Wednesday, the race cars paraded through the nearby town of Adenau, ending in the town center with a rock concert. In the evening, Alex included us in his invitation to a private reception at the BMW M Power Showroom at the Nürburgring where they unveiled the new M2 CS Racing.

Ethan and I spent Thursday exploring the Nürburgring area while Alex was at qualifying. We got to visit the Black Falcon pit box for an awesome behind the scenes experience. We also got to watch qualifying and races for a variety of classic car classes around the GP circuit. The sounds were intoxicating!

We started Friday with a friend from Arlington who currently lives in Berlin, Aaron Kobilis, joining us for race weekend. Classics racing resumed to include Tourenwagen Legends. Several Mercedes DTM cars proved to be among the fastest...and loudest!

Saturday...race day! We started the day touring the classics pits. It was so special to see these legendary racing machines up close while chatting with the racers. Next, we got to do the grid walk for the N24 and watch the formation lap from pit row. We watched the race until about 1:00 AM, leaving after Alex's night stint with his team in P3 in their class...SP10. He said the drive was brutal, dealing with low visibility and extreme aggression from the GT3s in the SP9 class.

We arrived at the track Sunday morning being welcomed by about a dozen cars in the "graveyard" where wrecked cars are staged for removal. Overnight, Alex's team had climbed the ranks to P1 in their class. They were ahead on pace but ended up being the only car of ten in SP10 to finish the race.

What an incredible trip, and to have it end with a good friend winning his class at the Nürburgring 24 Hours! I can't thank you enough for this awesome experience Alex! DV

**MAY
2025**



NEW POTOMACANS

MAY 2025

DANIEL BECHARA

2015 911 GT3
from Reston

CASEY BUFFALINI

2018 718 Cayman GTS
from Huntingtown

LUIS CHEVEZ

2023 911 Carrera GTS
from Potomac

DAVID CORBY

2024 718 Cayman
from Brambleton

GARRY DITZLER

2018 718 Cayman GTS
from Stafford

RANDI DUTCH

2013 911 Carrera S Cabriolet
from Washington

RON EVANS

2023 911 Carrera S
from Leesburg

FRANCIS FRANQUI

2006 Boxster S
from Woodbridge

TADIWA GUTHRIE

2001 911 Carrera
from Alexandria

REUBEN HAMEED

2025 Macan 4 (EV)
from Washington

GREGG HUGHES

2022 911 Carrera GTS Cabriolet
from Leesburg

HOUMAN JALALI

2021 718 Cayman S
from Arlington

ALI JAVADI

2024 911 Carrera T
from Rockville

JIZBEL JOHNSON

2019 Cayenne
from Herndon

PRITPAL KALSI

1998 911 Carrera
from Clarksburg

ANDREW KATES

2013 911 Carrera S Cabriolet
from Arlington

SHAWN KEEGAN

2018 911 Carrera 4
from Brambleton

PIOTR KEPINSKI-KOZACZEK

2002 Boxster S
from Winchester

ROMEO MCCLARRY

2002 911 Carrera
from Bryantown

BRENT MCDUFFIE

2025 911 Carrera GTS
from Olney

CHEERAG PATEL

2023 718 Cayman GTS 4.0
from Aldie

PAMELA RAUCH

2007 Boxster
from Purcellville

RON ROGERS

2014 Cayenne GTS
from Washington

RISHAV SHRESTHA

2019 718 Cayman
from Frederick

ZENA SIDHU

2023 Macan
from Leesburg

TRAVIS SMITH

2010 Boxster
from Gaithersburg

MICHAEL SOLDNE

2020 911 Carrera S
from Arlington

ROB SUKHWANI

2005 Boxster
from Aldie

CHARLES TAYLOR

1988 911 Carrera Targa
from Warrenton

TROY TORBETT

1982 911 SC
from Vienna

DAVID YAKAITIS

2021 Panamera 4S E-Hybrid
from Chesapeake Beach

NEW MEMBERS = 31

MEMBERS TRANSFERRING TO POTOMAC IN MAY 2025

MICHAEL SHARPS

1986 944
from Alexandria

CHRISTOPHER SOKOL

2003 911 Carrera
from Clifton

PorscheFest 2025

You are Invited to
**PCA Potomac's
70th Anniversary
Celebration**

*Summit Point Motorsports
Saturday, July 26th*

**MUSIC BY DJ CAREY | HAPPY HOUR
BBQ DINNER | PARTY**

Enjoy Family Fun All Day

**Drivers Education
Autocross
Concours Charity Laps**

\$30.00 per person Free for Kids under 12
Commemorative T-Shirts \$15.00

(Use registration link below to order T-Shirts by Thurs. July 17th)
Register: msreg.com/2025pfestdinnerhshirts

MAY
2025



PCA POTOMAC ANNIVERSARIES

MAY

5 YEARS

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CALL FOR PORSCHE AUTOMOBILIA

We're looking to feature Potomacan's automobilia. Doubtless you have interesting artifacts, posters, trophies, badges, programs, models, emblems or other Porsche related collector items stashed away, displayed in your office or sitting on a bookshelf that would be of interest to the club. Time to let light shine on those items we'd like show in future editions of dV!

SEND US YOUR AUTOMOBILIA

Please submit your items with your name, a brief description and high-resolution photo(s) by email to: dveditor@pcapotomac.org And watch this space!



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DER VORGÄNGER

Your favorite Founders' Region monthly magazine can benefit from your experiences with your Porsche.

We are always in need of articles and photographs to help tell Porsche stories. All around us are wonderful stories just waiting to be told. If you feel you don't have the time or expertise to tell those stories yourself, at least pass along your ideas or photos. Here are some ideas that resonate with readers:

- Travel and adventure stories with your Porsche - foreign or domestic.
- First hand accounts of attending a motorsport event in which Porsches participated.
- Visits to car museums.
- DIY (Do-It-Yourself) articles on some small or large project that you've done. Examples abound, from rebuilding an engine to replacing hood struts.
- Interviews with owners of vintage or historically significant Porsches (or a collection).
- My first experience with PCA Potomac, which could be what your High Performance Driving Clinic was like, or your first Driver Education event or just an entertaining Drive & Dine.
- Your story of participating in a PCA national event, such as Treffen or Parade.
- Why I Love My Porsche articles are always welcomed. Please include a photo of you with the car.
- Photographs of yourself or fellow Porsche owners enjoying their cars. No low-resolution photos, please; we simply can't use them. Send original sizes.

Browse the MAGAZINE area on pcapotomac.org for submission instructions, the latest edition, 50+ years of archived DV, and more!

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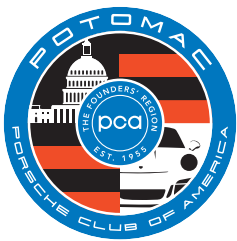


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The Founders' Region, Potomac is the founding region of PCA. The club offers over 100 events each year, including Drivers' Education with free Tech Inspection for members, Concours, Drive n' Dine, Autocross, Rallies and other social events.

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