



The Monthly Newsletter of the PCA Palmetto Region

Palmetto Pipes

www.pcapalmetto.org

Harold "Tuggy" Mathisen

by: Al Trego

It was with great sadness that Palmetto Region has received news of the passing of Tuggy Mathieson. A very early member of the region, Tuggy was instrumental in the successes Palmetto Region has enjoyed and the experiences enjoyed by the membership. His life served as the true embodiment of the coda "It's not the cars, it's the people" and those of us who knew him are now challenged to keep his cheerful spirit alive in our actions going forward.

I first met Tuggy when I joined the Palmetto Region Porsche Club back in 1988, Tuggy was the Club Vice President and Treasurer at the time. The monthly meetings were pretty sparse, maybe 8 to 10 members at most. We often joked that we should treat ourselves to lunch on the club because we had money in the Treasury, I don't think we ever did though. In the early 90's when the club started to grow we would hold meeting in members homes and Tuggy would put together his rallies, always fun, and full of challenges, during this time Tuggy and I became close friends.

Tuggy was something of a Renaissance man and in addition to his deep well of Porsche spirit and knowledge, he excelled at shag dancing and watercolor/acrylic painting. His paintings, often featuring the downtown Charleston architecture, were eagerly sought after by Palmetto members and the general public at the Courtyard Art Gallery, where he was a member. He was solicited to prepare a piece for submission by the Piccolo Spoleto committee which was selected as the 2015 poster. He also loved to paint Porsches and racing scenes, over the years, I filled my man cave with TUG ART. My favorite was his water color of the Brumos Porsche, which I have the original of.

After we toured the Brumos Museum three years ago, we decided that it would be a good idea to send a signed copy of the Brumos Porsche print to put in the Museum. I called the General Manager, Ray Schaffer from Brumos, he also thought it was a great idea. So, we got the print signed by all of the members who toured the Brumos Museum and today TUG ART is proudly displayed there.

In the early 2000's we split our membership with Coastal Empire (Hilton Head), we lost 88 members a good percentage at the time. After this Tuggy was always looking to help grow our Region, he helped host a number of Autocrosses, Rallies, Track Events, and Socials. Our beloved Palmetto Region began to grow rapidly again and soon enough we were back to 200 members, Tuggy was very instrumental in our growth.

Tuggy joined the Palmetto Region in 1977 and served as President, Treasurer and Historian over many years, Tuggy's passion for the Porsche brand and club was second to none, he owned several Porsches over the years, 914's, early 911's, 964, and 930.

Last year we got the bad news that Tuggy had cancer of the throat, we were all in shock. He had a great support group and surgery went well and he began the healing process. Then Betty called me to let me know that the cancer had returned. I got a chance to see Tuggy in his final days and I told him how much I loved him and how we are praying for him and his family. His strength and courage was amazing. Tuggy passed 4 days later.

Take every opportunity to tell your loved ones how much you love them because we all will face these very scary times one day.

We would like to express our sincerest condolences to Tuggy's wife, Betty; sister, Bernadette; and sons Trey and Rhett.



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Calendar: Upcoming Events in our Region and Beyond

For more information and event listings go to: <http://www.pcapalmetto.org/index.php>

	Sat, Jan 09	10:00 AM	Planning/Board Meeting	5519 Sageborough Dr, North CHS
	Board meeting to discuss ideas for 2016, members welcome. At the Lefebvre residence in North Charleston. Come over after breakfast.			
	Tue, Jan 12	7:00 PM	Monthly Social	Southside 17, Tanger Outlets
	Join us at Southside 17 (near Tanger Outlet, 4950 Centre Point Drive, Suite 166, North Charleston) for updates from the officers, to talk about upcoming events, and to socialize with your fellow Porschephiles.			
	Sat, Jan 16	Sun, Jan 17	Driver's Education at Roebing Road	Florida Crown Region PCA
	The Driver's Education program provides a safe, structured, and controlled learning environment for your high performance auto. Track near Savannah, GA. Register at www.clubregistration.net .			
	Sat, Jan 16	9:00 AM	Sea Island Cars & Coffee	Freshfields Village, Kiawah
	Arrive in your favorite ride and join us for Cars and Coffee at the Freshfields Village at the crossroads of Kiawah, Seabrook and Johns Islands. The event will run from 9:00 to 11:00 am and will feature antiques, classics, exotics, concepts and any other cool cars.			
	Sun, Jan 17	11:30 AM	Drive & Dine	Myrtle Beach Area
	Monthly Drive & Dine from the Myrtle Beach Area. We will gather at Ollie Bargain Outlet, Carolina Forest (2100 Oakheart Rd, Myrtle Beach) at 11:30, drive starts at noon.			
	Sat, Jan 30	Sun, Jan 31	Rolex 24 at Daytona	Daytona International Speedway
	The Rolex 24 At Daytona features international stars of DAYTONA Prototype and GT-class racing twice-around-the-clock in the ultimate test of driver and machine. Past race winners include Dario Franchitti, Scott Pruett, Hurley Haywood and Juan Pablo Montoya.			
	Mon, Feb 09	7:00 PM	Monthly Social	TBD
	Join us at TBD for updates from the officers, to talk about upcoming events, and to socialize with your fellow Porschephiles.			
	Mid-Feb TBD			SC Region SCCA AutoX & Novice School
	Expect a 2-day event weekend in which Saturday is a Solo Novice School and Sunday is a non-points Solo event. Info here: http://www.scsportscar.com/solo/			
	Fri, Feb 12	Sat, Feb 13	Driver's Education at Roebing Road	Florida Citrus Region PCA
	The Driver's Education program provides a safe, structured, and controlled learning environment for your high performance auto. Track near Savannah, GA. Register at www.clubregistration.net .			
	Fri, Apr 15	Sun, Apr 17	Kiawah Island Motoring Retreat	Kiawah Island, SC
	Organizers are looking to register volunteers NOW! Volunteers get free entry, a hat and t-shirt. Email Mike Duck if you're interested at mduck@convergednetworks.com . Also, contact Ken if interested in having your vintage or unique car(s) included in the "club car" group for Palmetto Region PCA. Find details here: http://kiawahislandmotoringretreat.com/			
	Thu, Apr 16	10 AM - 4 PM	Walterboro Wings-n-Wheels	Lowcountry Regional Airport
	Save the date for the annual Walterboro Wings-n-Wheels event.			
	Sat, Apr 30		Trident Tech Car Show	North Charleston, SC
	Save the date for the Trident Technical College Annual Spring Spin-Off Car Show to benefit Auto Program Scholarship Fund.			
	Sat, May 14	10:00 AM	Veterans Victory House Car Show	Walterboro, SC
	Save the date for the Annual Veterans' Victory House Charity Car Show sponsored by the Walterboro Cruisers.			

Breakfast with Dr. Bob, Sunflower Café, West Ashley, 8 am.

Monthly Social, Second Tuesday of each Month, Location TBD. Check website for details.

Note: Calendar events in bold type earn points toward the Palmetto Region Competitor of the Year Award.

For additional information and events outside of the Palmetto Region go to: <http://www.pcapalmetto.org/calendar/>



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Turn Nine

By Joe Mills

Coastal Empire PCA hosted its third and final DE of the year on the weekend of December 5-6, 2015 at Roebing Road Raceway. In conjunction with the DE, Coastal Empire was also conducting an instructor school on the Friday prior to the event. Jennifer Mills and Michelle Porter had been invited to attend the school. Instructor candidates are invited based on their experience, skill level, ability to communicate and observed general awareness and responsibility on track.

The school consists of both classroom and on track sessions where the candidates learn how to teach the skills that they have learned over years on track and how deal with different situations that may arise on track. While on track, the instructor candidates teach their "student" from the passenger seat. The "students" are PCA instructors who "forgot" how to drive and have to be re-taught. As the day progresses, their skill level improves so the candidates learn how to teach students of different skill levels. After a stressful day, Jennifer and Michelle were rewarded with their own personal-



ized instructor shirt. Congratulations and welcome to the instructor club!!!

The DE weekend itself was also a success. Jennifer and Michelle both had excellent green group students in a Porsche 911 and 928 respectively. JB and Nichole continued to chase each other in the white group.

Their speeds are both increasing and Nichole Lefebvre has learned that there is nothing to fear in the agricultural route around the corners. Cliff Hudson made it through the entire weekend with no car problems and made great progress. Kevin Zemnickas was promoted from the green group to the blue group, so now Kevin and Cliff are out together in the same group.

Jennifer and I are taking a couple of months off to recover from a busy 2015 and to address some general upkeep on the Miata. However, several Palmetto Region members will be attending either the Florida Crown Region event on January 16-17, 2016 or the Florida Citrus event on February 13-14, 2016.

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Flashback from February 2011

Palmetto Region's Featured Member

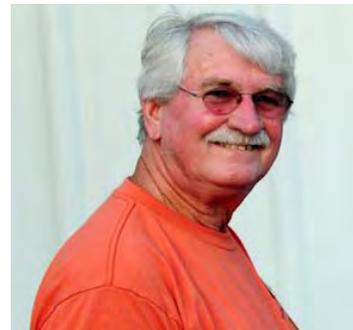
By Tug Mathisen

Before 1972, I had never owned a foreign built automobile. I got married and my father-in-law, Hershal Woosley, a retired Air Force Master Sergeant, owned an independent Volkswagen repair shop. He taught me how to work on these little German autos. The father of five girls welcomed a son-in-law, who became interested in the cars he loved. Hershal's first grandchild, Rhett Patrick Mathisen, "RPM", (initially were purely coincidental), was taught about the cars from childhood. He attended races in his car-seat on top of cars in the pits. Rhett has become very skilled in the maintenance and repair of German built autos.

Weekends were spent racing a VW on the local dirt tracks around the areas. I drove for several years until the "mini stock VW class" was eliminated from the race schedule. I bought my first Porsche, a VW powered, 1973 914-2.0 and joined PCA.

The car was great at auto crossing, which was very popular during those years. We attended Atlanta's Rennfest, Smokey Mountains Spring Fling, and Charlotte's Porsche Corvette Challenge among other events. Palmetto Region hosted an annual solo II

event at Roebling Road during this time. I was very fortunate to win my class many times. The Palmetto Region Competitor of the year trophy was won by me from 1978-1981, 1986-1988, and 1996. Porsche's I've owned include 1973 914-2.0, 1973 911S-2.4, 356 speedster (kit car), 1967 912, 1968 912 and 1990-Carrera 4. I still have the last two cars. Several facts about me are: I attended 36 Daytona 24-Hour Races from 1973 until 2009. I've been Palmetto Region's President, Vice President, Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Membership Chair, Event Chair, Rally Master and Auto Cross Chair. I was voted Club Treasurer in 1985, an office I still hold. I am a water-color artist, and I enjoy putting Porsche's in my paintings. I was the poster artist for the Euro Fest Car Show at the BMW Factory in Greer, SC for six years in a row. I've met many wonderful friends through PCA, there are too many to name. With so many new members I feel Palmetto Region will be successful and flourish in the future.



Vintage Porsches Are Rising as the Next Blue Chip Classic Cars

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-12-24/vintage-porsches-are-rising-as-the-next-blue-chip-classic-cars>

Earlier this month in London, Bonhams sold a 1955 Mercedes-Benz 300 SL for \$1.34 million. The sum was about this year's average for the iconic coupe, which amassed considerable value since similar models started going for \$3 and \$4 million back in 2012.

But prices, while sure to stay stellar for the next several years, won't continue their exponential rise indefinitely. So the real question is, what's next?

If you ask the number crunchers, they say it's Porsche. Recently in New York, a 1973 Porsche Carrera RS 2.7 Touring sold for just under \$1 million.

"Of all of the people who sold a [classic] SL this year, 50 percent of them turned around and bought a Porsche," said McKeel Hagerty, the CEO of Hagerty, an insurer of vintage automobiles. "Of that group, half bought a 911, and half bought a 356. I don't think that's a coincidence."

Of course, the other 50 percent of those guys bought another Mercedes, a Ferrari, or a Jaguar, to varying degrees. And Ferrari still dominates the classic market; seven of the 10 highest North American sale prices of 2015 belong to that Italian icon. (No. 1 was a 1956 Ferrari 290 MM Spider that sold for more than \$28 million Dec. 10 in New York.) But it is significant that Porsche alone dominates the next-up cull. Recent auction numbers indicate an uptick. Blue chip cars in general have risen from an average value of \$600,000 in 2007 to \$2.6 million today. (As with company stocks, "blue chip" autos are the most expensive and consistent in the field, like the above-mentioned Ferrari and Mercedes.) Vintage German-made cars jumped an average value of \$150,000 in 2007 to \$625,000 today; Porsches in particular have gone from five- to six and seven digits in the same time frame, with even models as late as early 2000s' Carrera GT's hitting near the million-dollar mark on a model that used to be worth \$300,000.

"European sports cars in general have been on a real rise in the last couple of years," said Gord Duff, the car specialist

at RM Sotheby's. "Ferraris lead the way and then you go to the next greatest European sports cars, which are Mercedes, and then you get to Porsches. If we are saying Mercedes have peaked, Porsches are the next best thing."

Hagerty data that combines public auction sales and private sales shows that the 1974-1977 Porsche 911 has increased the most in average sale price of any classic car this year, with a jump of 154 percent in value over 2014. That's more than anything from Aston Martin, Ferrari, or Lamborghini. Auction houses offered 27 more Porsches this year at the Monterey auctions than they did last year, especially 930s and 911 SC models. (The 930 is a flat-6 engine that was the top of the 911 range during the late '70s and '80s.) Searches for Porsche make up 23.5 percent of all queries by collectors ages 30 to 50, according to Hagerty.

Cars of the '80s

Here's what's likely pushing the Porsche passion: Guys who were kids in the '80s.

"Guys in their 40s now had a poster of that car when they were 10 years old," Duff said of the Porsche 911, "and now they're out there finding them."

In fact, 1980 and newer vehicles have the fastest growth rates of any models; North American classic car auction sales have reached a record \$1.45 billion total in 2015, an 11-percent increase over 2014's \$1.31 billion. The growth was pushed by activity among collectors who added 17 percent more 1980s-and-newer vehicles to existing Hagerty insurance policies—versus a 2.3-percent increase for pre-1980s classics.

What's more, there are plenty of Porsches on the market now that have been owned by one person who bought it for \$30,000 20 or 30 years ago and are now worth \$150,000. It's just too tempting not to sell. (Or not to buy, since the numbers seem to keep rising.)

Members Corner

New members:

Christopher Arthur

2006 Cayman S

John Grilli

1986 911 Carrera

Tristan Ratliff

2001 Boxster S

James Walker Wilson

A warm Low country welcome to you !!! We look forward to seeing you at our next outing.



"A new era of later model performance cars from instantly recognizable brands have irrefutably proven that the term 'collector car' is not synonymous with 'old car,'" Hagerty said. "Porsche is next."

What Makes Them Popular
Porsches—especially the 911s made between 1970 and 1980 and the 356 Speedsters made in the 1960s—have growing appeal because of several factors. For one thing, they are reliable—more reliable than other vintage cars from the era (Jaguar, Aston, Ferrari, ahem). Their mechanically simple Volkswagen-approved engines run smoothly and easily, and their well-built components are easily sourced the world over. Many owners are



able to drive their models on a weekly basis, which is more than can be said for most high-end collectables: The adage about how owning a classic car is like being in a dysfunctional relationship is often, painfully, true.

Secondly, Porsches from this era have a wide entry point for prospective buyers. If you're savvy, you can find an old 911 in the five-figure range. Or you can find one for more than \$1 million, if that's more in your price range. The same goes for those little 356s.

"The fact is if you love Ferraris, you're having to spend \$100,000 or more just to have something with a Ferrari badge," Duff said. "If you love Porsche and want to get into something that has that badge, you can get into a relatively good one for \$30,000."

It comes down to numbers—how many of a particular model Porsche produced that year. (The rarer the model the more it will cost.) It also comes down to quality. Sotheby's can sell a 356 coupe in decent condition for \$60,000 and also sell one that has been perfectly restored for \$150,000.

And it comes down options. Things like a pristine paint job with the "right" colors on the interior (tan, buff, gold, silver, crème all qualify) and Rudge-brand wheels will boost the price of any given Porsche. (Those wheels are especially important: Their origins trace back to a British bicycle manufacturer in the 1860s; they are among the most highly prized of any accessories in the collector-car universe. A full set can add as much as \$50,000 to the value of a car.)

Do the Work

The trick to making a sound purchase is to do your research. Find out where the car originated, how many buyers it had, and what sorts of accidents and maintenance problems it incurred. (Warm climates unlikely to foster rust or salt-lined snowy streets are best; and the fewer the maintenance issues the better. A clean bill of no-collisions is a must.) Find out what garage restored it, too, and where. And it should go

without saying that the lower the miles on the odometer the better.

Most importantly, know that even though these things pop on the auction block, the impetus for their success has always been passion. So don't buy a Porsche only to cosset it away. It's meant to be driven.

"If a guy spends \$500,000 on one, chances are he's had a few of them already—and there's a reason he keep buying them," Duff said. "They're just finally getting to be worth what they should have been worth a long time ago."





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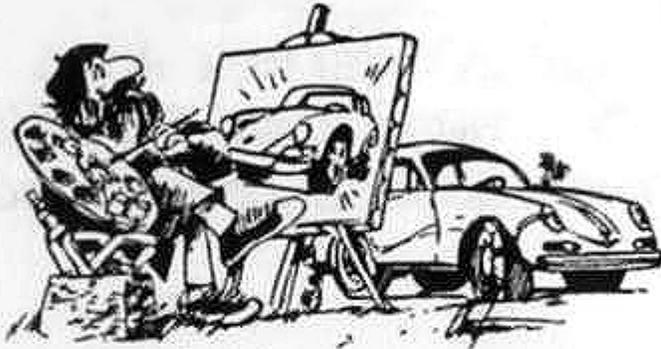
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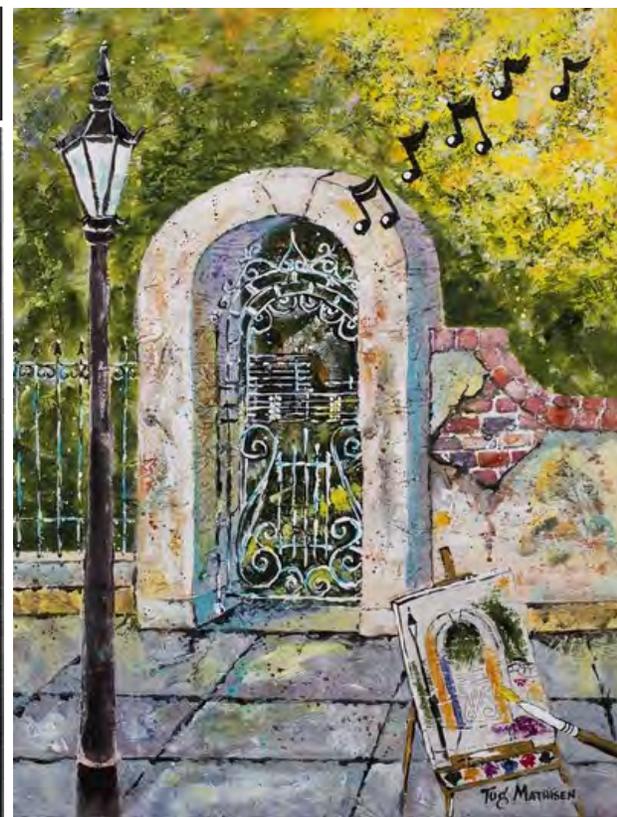
PHOTOS OF THE MONTH
Ad from June 2001 Palmetto Pipes

TUG ART



HAROLD "TUG" MATHISEN, JR.
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"Jukebox Gate" by Tug Mathisen is the poster art for the 2015 Piccolo Spoleto Festival. Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs

Kiawah Island Motoring Retreat Top 10 Cars

Fellow club member Mike Duck, has secured us a spot to put our clubs top 10 vintage cars. Contact Ken Dasen if you would like to get your car in the lineup.

About Kiawah Island Motoring Retreat

The Kiawah Island Motoring Retreat ("KIMR") rolls onto Kiawah Island in April 2016 with an entire weekend celebrating stunning cars and the beautiful scenery and culture of the South Carolina Lowcountry. It takes place on Kiawah Island, and will be one of the most exclusive events on the concours calendar. KIMR is a non-profit organization and proceeds will benefit three very worthwhile Lowcountry charities.

Schedule of Events:

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016

Motoring Tour through scenic Johns, Wadmalaw & Kiawah islands
Automotive Seminars

Exclusive upscale dinner events at special locations

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016

Cars on Kiawah at the Ocean Park concours site featuring hundreds of great local & regional collector cars
Traditional Lowcountry Oyster Roast

Experience a variety of Lowcountry food choices

SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2016

Concours display and judging

Kiawah Island Open House Tours

Experience a variety of Lowcountry food choices

Awards Ceremony

Schedule is subject to change.



KIAWAH ISLAND
MOTORING RETREAT



Beth Knobe
Newsletter Editor
4607 Battery Range
N Charleston, SC 29420



Tug Mathisen Artwork



Final Thoughts from the Prez...

As the new year begins, we start with our planning meeting to get the club going and have an agenda to help keep us on track. Although not written in stone so we can add some new ideas as the year goes on. A perfect example of that was when Dave talked to me about starting a touring drive from cars and coffee to Morgan Creek Grill. It was one of the most attended events of the year and wasn't on our "list to do." Come on out to the planning meeting and throw us some new ideas to make our club stronger. Speaking of stronger, as most know one of our early and very active members Tuggy past recently. He made this club strong and always had a positive outlook on things. As I try to come up with the just "one" thing that shows this, I come up with several. One that really sticks in my mind was when Scott Hornsby and Tuggy planned a blind rally. The instructions were in Braille so you had to rely on your blind passenger for the directions and get you to your destination for lunch. Not only was it a blast for us Porsche drivers, the smiles were everywhere to be seen by all that participated. Al said it best at the beginning of the newsletter, "Take every opportunity to tell your loved ones how much you love them." Tuggy was loved by everyone and will be missed. Rest in peace and may your family find comfort and strength to move forward through these troubling times.

...Your Prez, Ken Dasen

Its Not just the Cars, Its the People !!!

**Monthly Member Meeting is
@ Southside 17
(near Tanger Outlets) on
January 12 @ 7pm**