



Palmetto Pipes



August 2026 Edition

www.pcapalmetto.org



Region Officers

President:

Keith Kirwin

Vice President:

Lola Massoglia

Secretary:

Jason Proctor

Treasurer:

Andy Cygan

Membership

Keith Gardner

Grand Strand Area Director

Jennifer Mims

Website:

Josh Stolarz

Newsletter Team:

Gary Becroft

Rusty Waddell

Josh Stolarz

Tony Morelli

Nicci Morelli

Zone 3 Representative

Rick Daniels

Contact Us

pcapalmetto.org/contacts



In this Issue

- 3 Upcoming Events
- 4 Presidents Column
- 5 Membership Update
- 6 Drive & Dine to Harold's Country Club
- 7 Lowcountry Blues & Scenic Views
- 8 Porsche Happenings This Month
- 9 Luftgekühlt 12 South Atlanta
- 10 First in the Nation - Again
- 12 From the Archives
- 14 Cliff's Corner
- 16 Inside Track
- 17 Sponsors



More than just a car—it's a passion.

What's your Porsche story?

[SUBMIT YOUR STORY HERE.](#)

**Interested in helping with
Newsletter content?**

SEND US AN EMAIL AT
NEWSLETTER@PCAPALMETTO.ORG

EXPLORE PAST ISSUES



Cover: Brookgreen Gardens New
Member Event

Photo: Josh Stolarz

FOR ALL THE LATEST UPDATES VISIT PCAPALMETTO.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS

CLICK ON UNDERLINED WORDING BELOW FOR MORE DETAILS

**AUG
8TH**

Saturday 5pm:

Drive and Dine to Harold's Country Club

Our annual Tuggy Memorial Drive & Dine to Harold's Country Club in Yemassee on Saturday, August 8th!

**AUG
9TH**

Sunday, 9am:

Grand Strand Breakfast on Pawleys Island

Join fellow Grand Strand Porschephiles for breakfast every other month at Drift in Myrtle Beach.

**AUG
11TH**

Tuesday, 6:30pm:

Monthly Palmetto Social

Join us at Villa Cantina in West Ashley for our August dinner.

**AUG
23RD**

Sunday, 7:00am:

Peachstate PCA Autocross 5

Each round of the 2026 championship will take place at Echo Park Speedway, Hampton, GA.

**AUG
29TH**

Saturday, 7:00am:

Coastal Empire Region Back to School DE

This 2 day driving event is focused on developing high performance driving skills. Instructors will be provided for all students in the Green (novice) and Blue (advanced novice) groups. At Roebling Road Raceway.

**SEPT
13TH**

Sunday

Car Show Day - Myrtle Beach and James Island

The Myrtle Beach Sand, Surf and Speed Car Show and the James Island Hallie Hill Charity Car Show will be going on and we will have tents at both locations.



Presidents Column

I want to begin by offering a huge congratulations and sincere thank you to Jennifer Mims for organizing our New Member Drive to Brookgreen Gardens. Jennifer designed an outstanding event that brought together members from both the Charleston and Grand Strand areas for a fantastic day of driving, fellowship, and great food.

More importantly, the event perfectly showcased what our region is all about. It gave many of our newer members the opportunity to experience the welcoming atmosphere that makes the Palmetto Region so special. Events like this don't happen by accident—they happen because volunteers like Jennifer invest their time and energy into creating memorable experiences for all of us. Thank you, Jennifer, for a job exceptionally well done.

Our next opportunity to get together is the annual Tuggy Memorial Drive to Harold's Country Club, where we'll once again meet up with our friends from the Coastal Empire Region. This has become a wonderful tradition between our clubs, and Harold's is always a unique destination. We'll also have some terrific raffle prizes, thanks to both regions, making it another event you won't want to miss. I hope you'll join us.

One thing I especially appreciated at Brookgreen was seeing so many members wearing their club name tags. With more than 800 members spread from Edisto to North Myrtle Beach, name tags make it so much easier to connect names with faces, welcome new members, and continue conversations from one event to the next. They're even more valuable when we get together with another PCA region, where many of us are meeting fellow Porsche enthusiasts for the first time.

I'd also like to thank everyone for embracing our new digital waiver system. It's made the start of our drives much more efficient, allowing us to spend less time collecting paperwork and more time visiting with one another, holding our driver's meeting, and getting out on the road.

One of the most encouraging things we've seen recently is the growing number of members who are asking how they can become more involved. That's a great sign for the future of our region.

Strong clubs are built by members who welcome others, volunteer when they can, and encourage the next person to get involved. That positive energy is contagious, and it's what makes the Palmetto Region such a special place to be.

Thank you for being a part of it. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Tuggy Memorial Drive.

Best,
Keith Kirwin
President, Palmetto Region PCA



Membership Update

PCA National Membership: 171,583

Palmetto Region: 855 Members

Primary: 561 | Affiliate: 294 | Test Drive: 6

Welcome Our Newest Members

Jason Butler

2026 Cayenne GTS

James A. Gillespie

2024 911 Targa 4S

Jeffrey Craig Gourdine

1989 944 Turbo

Jeff Guyon

1973 911T Targa

Paul Karp

2026 911 Targa 4 GTS

Daniel Cruz Muro

2001 911 Carrera Cabriolet

Mark Pugrant

2022 718 Boxster

Shelby Romashko

2017 Macan S

Donald J. Webb **TRANSFER**

1974 911

from Lincoln Trail



One Month Behind

Drive & Dine to Harold's Country Club

Get ready for our annual Tuggy Memorial Drive & Dine to Harold's Country Club in Yemassee on **Saturday, August 8th!** This year, we're teaming up with the Coastal Empire Porsche Region for what promises to be another fantastic evening of scenic driving and delicious food.

Harold's Country Club is famous for its steak night, and for just \$26 per person, you'll enjoy a steak (or chicken for \$19), access to the salad bar, a baked potato, and coffee or tea.

Please register and pay by August 6th, the sooner the better...



Driving Together from West Ashley

For those in the Charleston area who'd like to drive to Yemassee together, please meet at the South State Bank at 3628 Savannah Highway in West Ashley (next to Publix Market). We'll depart promptly at 5:00 PM. Dinner at Harold's Country Club begins at 6:30 PM.

We look forward to seeing you there for a memorable drive and a wonderful meal!

www.pcapalmetto.org/palmettonews/2026-drive-and-dine-harolds-country-club/



Lowcountry Blues & Scenic Views

Recapping Our Brookgreen Gardens Welcome Drive

Story: The Duke

Despite a few passing summer showers, the Palmetto Region PCA New Member Drive & Dine on July 25th proved to be a resounding success. Enthusiasts gathered from both our Northern and Southern departure points—Longs and Mount Pleasant—navigating the backroads to converge on the historic grounds of Brookgreen Gardens.

By the Numbers

While the morning radar turned a few away, our dedicated core turned out in full force:

- **34 Porsches** parked in our dedicated corral.
- **~60 Members & Guests** in attendance, including a warm welcome to several of our newest club members!

A Spectrum of Blues

If there was an unofficial theme for the day, it was certainly the stunning array of Porsche blues dotting the asphalt. Whether the overcast skies helped highlight the paint hues or purely by coincidence, our lineup showcased an incredible spread of Stuttgart's finest shades side-by-side—featuring everything from **Graphite Blue Metallic** and **Frozen Blue Metallic** to **Sapphire Blue Metallic** and **Shark Blue**.

Hospitality at Harvest

Our hosts at Brookgreen Gardens went above and beyond to accommodate the club. Not only did they set up a reserved, roped-off Porsche-only parking area right on the grounds, but the team at Harvest Restaurant delivered an exceptional lunch experience for our members.

Special thanks to **Jennifer Mims**, our Grand Strand Area Director, for her hard work in organizing, coordinating logistics, and making this summer event such an enjoyable outing for everyone involved.

Missed this event? Be sure to check our event calendar on pcapalmetto.org for upcoming local meets, drives, and social gatherings!

Find more of the event photos here... www.pcapalmetto.org/photos/album/275





PORSCHE HAPPENINGS THIS MONTH

1956

The Birth of the Porsche Parade

[August 29, 1956](#)

Just a year after the Porsche Club of America was founded, the very first Porsche Parade took place in the greater Washington D.C. area. It laid the groundwork for what would become the ultimate annual gathering for Porsche enthusiasts.

1958

The 356A Convertible D Enters Production

[August 1958](#)

Introduced to replace the legendary Speedster, the Convertible D offered a taller windshield, roll-up glass side windows, and more comfortable seats. The "D" stood for Drauz, the coachbuilder in Heilbronn. Only 1,331 were built before production ended in September 1959.



1965

The Targa Patent

[August 1965](#)

Porsche officially applied for a patent for the "Targa" concept. This iconic design, featuring a removable roof section and a distinct safety roll bar, was developed to supplement the 911 and 912 coupes in response to increased rollover safety requirements for convertibles in the US market.

1972

A Seismic Corporate Shift

[August 1, 1972](#)

Porsche transitioned into a stock corporation (AG), and both the Porsche and Piëch families withdrew from day-to-day operations. It marked the end of the purely family-run era and the beginning of the professionally managed global powerhouse we know today.

1984

Independence in America

[August 31, 1984](#)

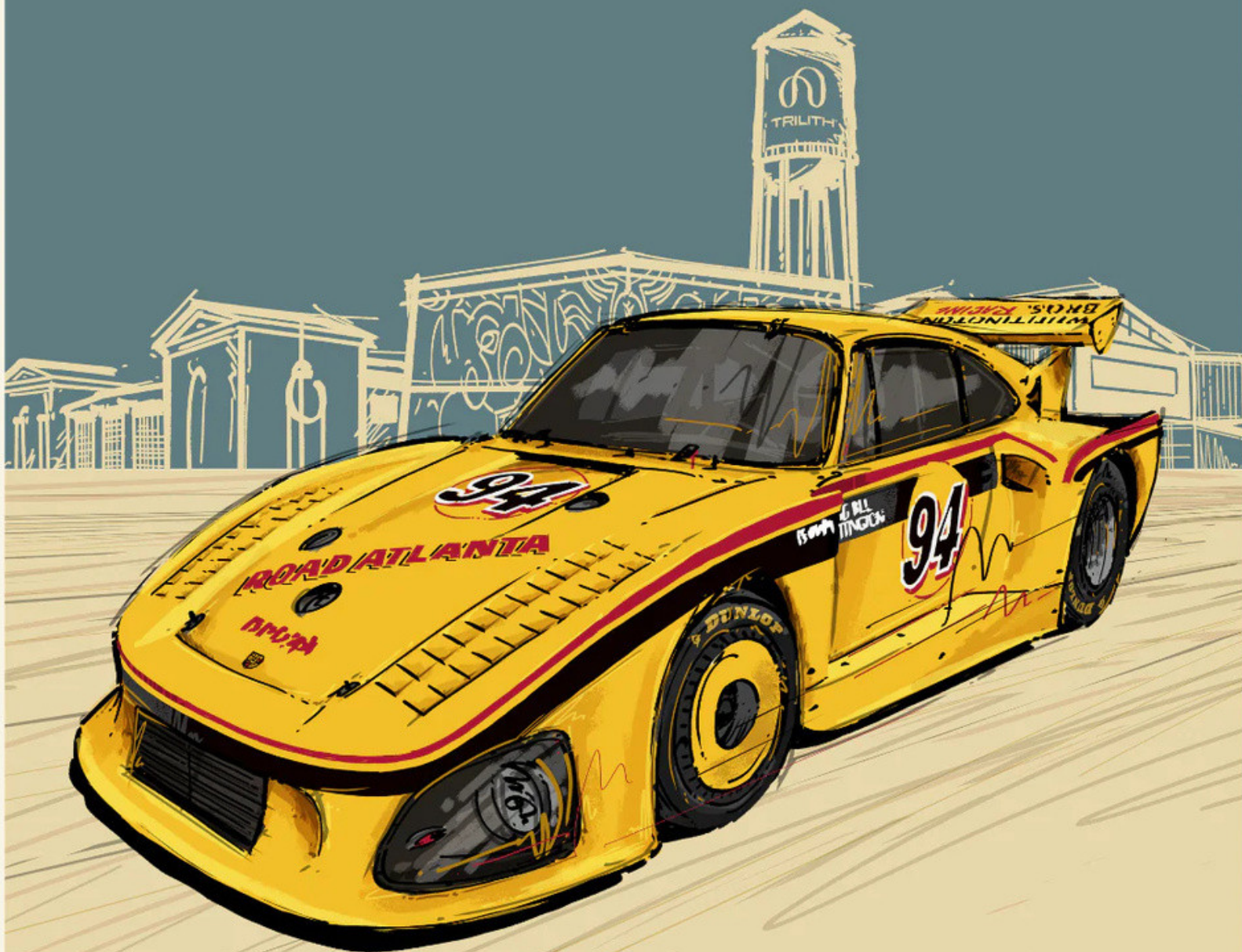
The long-standing distribution agreement with Volkswagen of America expired. The newly established Porsche Cars North America Inc. officially began independently selling and marketing vehicles in the United States.

2002

The Cayenne Era Begins

[August 20, 2002](#)

The first Porsche Cayenne rolled off the line at the new Leipzig factory. Controversial among purists, this moment essentially guaranteed Porsche's financial survival and funded every great sports car they've built since.



12 Luftgekühlt

ATLANTA, GEORGIA
OCTOBER 10, 2026

PORSCHE

DUNLOP

PORSCHE
CLASSIC

Mobil

HAGERTY

TAG Heuer

Meguiar's

INGRAM
Experience

Bridgely
Lines, Inc.

ELIS

GHAS™

BROAD
ARROW
AUCTIONS



FIRST IN THE NATION — AGAIN

The Palmetto Region website takes first place in Class IV

Story: The Duke

Our website has placed in PCA's National Website Award four times now — and taken first place twice. The latest is first in Class IV for 2026, following third in Class IV last year, third in Class III in 2016, and first in Class II back in 2007. The site has been running continuously since 2003.

Here's the thing about that 2008 award. If you look at the site that won it, tucked away in the corner is a sentence: "We currently have over 260 members and counting." Today the footer reads 855. Same club, same website, three times the people.

So consider this less a victory lap than a tour — because odds are you haven't seen half of what's on there. It's a filing cabinet that never forgets. Almost every Palmetto Pipes going back to 1969 is on the site — 244 issues, all of them searchable, right down to the scanned ones from the seventies. Every club post since 2006. And 24,327 photographs across 256 albums, documenting more than fifty years of this region.

It's how events actually happen. The Calendar and registration system handle everything from the Tuesday Social to the big ones — and registration and the insurance waiver now happen together, online, before you leave the house. That's why the sign-in moves the way it does now.

It brings people to us. The Bell dinner page drew 5,391 visits this spring — the second most-visited page on the site, behind only the front door. Traffic to the Grand Strand page nearly quadrupled this quarter, up 284%, almost entirely from people finding us through Google who'd never heard of us before.

And it looks after itself. In the last month, the site blocked or challenged 135,706 malicious requests — roughly 4,500 a day, every day, none of which you ever had to think about.

One last thing. Somewhere in those 24,327 photos is your car. Or the car you almost bought in 2011, or a friend you haven't seen in a while, or you — twenty years and one haircut ago. Go find yourself.

pcapalmetto.org/photos



BY THE NUMBERS

April 15 – July 14, 2026

5,672 people visited

8,814 visits

17,035 pages read

35,706 attacks blocked last month

2,682 views — the Bell dinner page

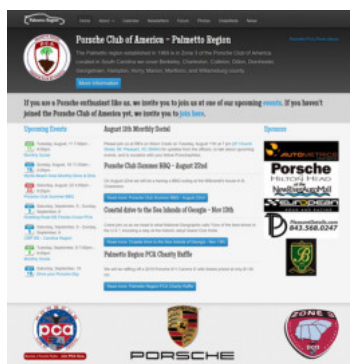
+284% —Grand Strand page growth

244 newsletters, back to 1969

24,404 photos in 257 albums



2006 — The site that won our first National Website Award in 2007. Note the membership count: "over 260 and counting."



2014 — This one placed third in Class III in 2016.



2026 — First place, Class IV. 855 members and counting.

LOCAL DEALERSHIP ALTERNATIVE

**Proud Sponsor of the Palmetto Region
Porsche Club of America**



843-865-6783

Charleston's Trusted Porsche Experts!



The nurse and the world champion

Fifty-four years ago this month, Palmetto Pipes went out as a stack of typed pages, mailed first class from the president's house on Lampton Road. Fifty cars had run our July autocross — Corvettes, Mustangs, a Maverick, one dune buggy — and the newsletter proudly noted it was the first event where we used our new electronic timer.

Two of the articles in that issue were written by the same Palmetto member: Chris Christopher. She'd spent the Can-Am weekend at Road Atlanta, but not in the grandstand. She was on the track's medical staff.

Her account starts about how you'd expect from a club newsletter in 1972. She describes her uniform (red hot pants and a white shirt), the medical team's duck mascot, and getting caught playing frisbee at corner twelve by a Chief Steward who told them to put the toys away and get back in the ambulance.

Then, four laps in, Denny Hulme — the reigning world champion — came out of turn seven at speed, caught air, and flipped his McLaren over backward. The car rolled and skidded a hundred and fifty yards before stopping upside down against a bank.

Four spectators jumped the rail and righted it by hand before the corner workers arrived. Peter Revson, whose own car had stalled fifty yards up the track, got out and ran down to help pull Hulme free. He'd been unconscious about forty-five seconds. The car was destroyed. The driver's cage wasn't.

Hulme walked away with a cut on one knee and no memory of any of it.

And then the part that stays with you. That night, in a hotel in Gainesville, Chris Christopher and the medical staff woke the world champion every two hours to check his pupils and his level of consciousness. In the morning he was sore, still hazy on what had happened, and eating a large breakfast while reading the newspaper for accounts of the race he couldn't remember.

Her article ends: Want to enjoy racing more? Get involved!!

We still have every word of it because somebody typed it up and mailed it in. Chris Christopher used a typewriter and a stamp. You have our email address.

"Amnesia is one of nature's protective devices."

NEXT MONTH:

A Charleston member drives his 911T — known to its owner as Frog — all the way to Wisconsin for the Porsche Parade XVII, arrives wearing a coat of bugs from every state in between, and learns that the Playboy Club has been watering the golf course and there is no water for Frog. He got up at six the next morning to be first at the hose. Still no water. They didn't enter.

PORSCHE



Make your fantasy car
your reality car.

PORSCHE APPROVED CERTIFIED
PRE-OWNED VEHICLES.

Having a Porsche of your very own is now closer to reality than ever. Every Porsche Approved Pre-owned vehicle has been meticulously inspected to meet our high standard of excellence, and is covered by a 2-year limited warranty. Ensuring that in every way, your dream Porsche is the real deal.

Porsche Charleston
1515 Savannah Highway
Charleston, SC 29407
843-852-4005
<https://charleston.porsche.com>

CLIFF'S CORNER

THE WEBSITE THAT DOESN'T EXIST

By Cliff Hudson

It happens frequently. A friend or customer will ask me one of these 2 questions:

"Cliff, I'm considering purchasing a used car. If I give you the VIN, can you look up the service history for me?"

Or in the case of a new service customer:

"I don't have or know where all the service records are, but you can look that up online, correct?"

The answer is no. Contrary to popular belief, not everything can be found on the internet and there is not any one website anywhere that contains all of the maintenance history of every car on the planet since the day it was manufactured.

Just about everyone knows of the history reporting companies like Carfax and Autocheck, and their existence has birthed the misconception that all knowledge about a vehicle can be found there, or somewhere. What the majority of people do not understand is that there are only 3 ways that these companies compile their information and I'll explain those in next month's article.

Slightly off subject, but there is one "know all" website. It's a site called CLUE (Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange) which is an invaluable source for insurance companies. This site contains the VIN of any vehicle that an insurance company has ever paid a claim on. This is to prevent people collecting multiple times on damage done to a vehicle.

Example:

Decades ago, a friend of mine's vehicle got hit in the rear. It was still drivable, so my friend requested a cash settlement from the insurance company who was responsible and did not repair the vehicle. A few months later, the vehicle gets hit again in the rear and since at that time there was no website where the previous claim could be recorded, they collected a second time for damage that had never been repaired. These days, the insurance will run the VIN through the CLUE database and if a previous collision is on record to the same area of the vehicle, they will demand proof that the vehicle had been repaired before they will pay a new claim. This can get a little complicated if you have a friend repair the vehicle "on the side" and there is no body shop invoice to prove the repair.

As stated earlier, next month I'll explain how the history reporting sites compile their data.





PCA Treffen at Sea 2027

12-Day British Isles with France & Belfast - Starts at \$2,779/person

Sail with fellow Porsche Club of America members and book now to take advantage of the best available cabins and all the benefits of Princess PLUS®. Enjoy an unforgettable round-trip voyage from Southampton, England, where history, culture, and dramatic scenery define every destination. This immersive itinerary

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



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



PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA



Brought to you by Rusty



Never been to a **Luftgekühlt**? You are missing something special. An absolutely amazing collection of vintage and modern Porsches presented in really unusual settings. A number of our members are already making plans to attend Luftgekühlt 12 in Atlanta (actually Fayetteville, GA) October 10th, start planning.

<https://luftgekuhl.com/pages/luft-12>



What is “**subscription pricing**” and why I don’t like it. Think Sirius radio (monthly fees) for features in your vehicle...paying by the minute for items like heated/ventilated seats or for the convenience of having a remote start/stop feature on you cell phone instead of a key fob thus basically paying each time you start your car using your phone. These and other features are already on the drawing board by GM, Tesla and Rivian.

First quarter **U.S. sale figures for Porsche** showed an expected decline in all models except 911s. Total vehicles sold shrank from 18,884 in the first quarter of last year to 16,517 (-12.5%) for Q1 this year. As you would expect sales for 718 series Boxster/Caymans declined dramatically due to the lack of inventory and these models are being reworked. The only gainer saw 911 sales climb from 2,086 units last year to 3,826 (+83.4%).



The new **Porsche Hilton Head** (Hardeeville) showroom and service center is now fully up and running. It is a very impressive facility and well worth a visit if you are in the area. The dealership is an AutoNation location which has over 300 dealerships in 20 states.

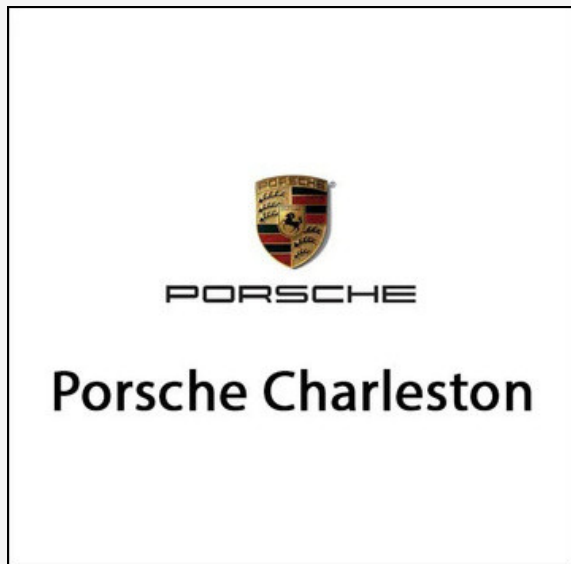
hiltonhead.porsche.com/en/about-us

I recently visited an really nice small lodge/resort in the extreme western part of North Carolina (you can almost see Tennessee from there) the Historic Tapoco Lodge very near Robinsville. The Cheoah River flows directly behind the Lodge’s outdoor dinning deck and the two taverns which feature excellent food. The Lodge is pet friendly and reasonable priced. It is surrounded by absolutely fantastic driving roads. You can choose from way too many curves/people on the Tail of the Dragon, the iconic Blue Ridge Parkway, wonderful sweeping vistas on the Cherahola Skyway and many more. Check it out: www.tapoco.com



Supporters of the Region

[Interested in Sponsorship?](#)





www.pcapalmetto.org



www.pcapalmetto.org/calendar



www.pcapalmetto.org/contacts

Palmetto Pipes