

B L A U R A I N

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Blue Ridge Region Porsche Club of America

Mid-Year 2023 Edition



The President's Desk

The president's column summarizes who we are, what we do, and where we are headed. From the interface with Porsche Club of America national to the people we meet, the president represents each of us to the world. Everything starts with good leadership.

From the Editor

Blue Ridge Region usually prints the January issue of Blau Rain highlighting the activities of the previous year. More events were held in 2022 than 2021. This issue describes events we held in 2022 and some of the individual activities members attended.

Charities

Blue Ridge Region shares a lot with its community. One way is the support of various charities in the region. There is the annual donation to four charities in the region plus other support during the year as determined by the board of directors.

Cars 'n Coffee

Cars 'n Coffee is a very casual social event. Usually held ten months of the year, Blue Ridge Region members, friends, and invited guests get together for friends and food. Getting there in a Porsche is part of the fun too. There is nothing like a Porsche drive with friends and having good food too.

2023 Events

The first six months of 2023 saw some old and some new places to visit. The pictures and descriptions of some of the most fun events are in this issue. Here's to the rest of the 2023 events, may there be many and well attended. See you there!

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Blue Ridge Region 2023

Our officers and contact information are first so you know who leads our region. Persons responsible for the region's happenings are included. Photos are included so you know who they are when you see them at region events.



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Cars 'n Coffee is always a popular event

Our Cars 'n Coffee events are well attended and enjoyed. The emphasis is on socializing and dining.





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Planning Session

Usually our first event is our planning session. This year's planning session was held at The Green Goat in Roanoke, VA. That is a favorite location for Cars 'n Coffee too.

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Something Different

Some photographs are just for fun. A different perspective can make photography interesting and fun. See what you think of these photos. Are they interesting to you?



Photo: Laura Hogan

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From The President's Desk

On behalf of the Blue Ridge Region Board, we wished our members a very Happy New Year! We are optimistic for 2023 and looking forward to many fun events. A few of our goals for the upcoming year will be to increase the value of being a member of the Blue Ridge Region and increase member engagement. Specifically with respect to having more members participate in events but also members stepping up to take on Chair roles and assist with putting on events.

The start of the New Year is also the time our region Officers could change. This year I am honored to assume the role of your President. Bill Hume will continue to serve as Vice President. Beth Heinzelman will continue to serve as Secretary and Jim Wallace has been elected as Treasurer. Join me in thanking Jim for volunteering to take on the duties of Treasurer and to Beth and Bill for continuing to serve our region.

As your new President, I would like to share a little about myself. I have been a member of BRR- PCA since 2017. I joined the club shortly after acquiring Dick and Caryl Hatch's 1968 912. Since that time I have served as the club's Treasurer the past 3 years. My wife Michelle and I have attended numerous events over the years and my son has joined me on several driving events. He typically drives my 1985 Carrera. I have a daughter Morgan who is in her first year at Washington & Lee and is a member of the swim team. I have a car hobby shop in Salem where I have a small collection of Triumphs, Land Rovers and a growing Porsche collection. For over the past 12 years I have been the President of Avis Construction Company as my day job. As with any club, the interest of the members varies. I look forward to getting to know more members throughout our region and others.

This year we kicked off the New Year with a Cars 'n Coffee at Famous Anthony's on Williamson Road on January 21st. (Thank you to Ed Clowser for agreeing to help with the CnC events!) Be sure to register on MotorsportReg.com BRR-PCA Cars 'n Coffee. Cars 'n Coffee events are gatherings about breakfast with friends and making new friends with members you may not know. The plan is to distribute a DRAFT Calendar of Events at this event in preparation for the Annual Planning Meeting

This may trigger some thoughts and allow us to make the most of that meeting.

Our Annual Planning Meeting was held February 11, 2023 at the Green Goat from 9:30AM – 12:00. We conducted a brief Board Meeting before jumping into the planning portion of the meeting. Planning Meeting is mostly a social event where we also take some time to kick around ideas about our club. The ideas help us shape activities to meet the interests of our members. You do not need to wait for the meeting to provide input. Whenever you think "Gee, I wish the club would do X." you should share with others in the club at any of our events, send an e-mail to any Board member, or post a message on our Facebook page. The DRAFT Calendar of Events includes our monthly meetings and events, National PCA events and other region's scheduled events. It also includes other local events such as Roanoke Valley and Lynchburg Cars and Coffee events and Star City Motor Madness. I would like to have more driving events and even events with other regions and perhaps other car clubs. There is also a lot of interest in doing an Autocross. We will of course plan to do Tire Rack Street Survival again this year.

It was great seeing many of you at our events, but it seems I just don't see everyone in the region even with a year of events. What can we do to increase your participation? I would like to hear from you so drop me a note at President@brr-pca.org.

Every fall we also hold our annual election of our club officers for the next year. Yes, your vote counts! So, please respond to the ballot when you get the e-mail notification. Any member in good standing may step-up to be added to the list of officer candidates. Members can also volunteer to be a Committee Chair, which takes less commitment than being an officer. Want to know more, just reach out to me or any Board member.

I am looking forward to your ideas and, most importantly, chatting with you at our events!

With best wishes,
Troy J. Smith

In Print and on Social Media

The events of 2023 have brought back more normal gatherings. With the pandemic officially declared over, we have more options for entertaining and enjoyable events. Another Street Survival is planned, and several ideas for new events are being developed. Cars 'n Coffee locations are harder to find as staffing and other issues make scheduling for us much more difficult. That resulted in two visits to The Green Goat and Old Oak Cafe. Both are member favorites and we much appreciate their willingness to host us. We are constantly searching for additional locations for Cars 'n Coffee, so if you have a suggestion let us know.

We look forward to the rest of 2023 with enthusiasm and anticipation. Our dedicated volunteers are already scheduling more 2023 events.

While 2023 events are happening, our Facebook page and website are updated with event information, photographs of Blue Ridge Region and other events, Porsche and other auto news, reminders, and changes. Go to our website and click the "Facebook" icon at the top of the page. It is that easy to stay current on Blue Ridge Region events.

Dave Hogan,
Newsletter Editor, Social Media Coordinator

Charities 2023

Our club is a charitable organization. Each year we raise funds for charity with proceeds going to charities we select from our region. During 2022 we donated \$1500 to each of four charities across our region; Bedford Domestic Violence Coalition, West End Center for Youth, NRV Cares, and, CASA of Lynchburg. One charity is chosen from a different area in Blue Ridge Region. Additionally, we donate to other charities during the year as voted by

the board including The Bedford Boys Tribute Center in Bedford, VA. The generosity of our members allows us to give back some of our good fortune.

Some members may have used one of our charities, some may use one in the future. Our donations allow the charities to help others during their tough time of need. We are happy to help our friends in need. Donations are welcome throughout the year. Thank you for your support. It is always appreciated!



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Cars 'n Coffee

Cars 'n Coffee is our monthly casual social event. Usually held at 9:30 AM in a different place within our area, it gives an opportunity for all members to meet and socialize. Due to seating limits, RSVP is required. Currently events are for members only. Weather permitting, a lot of socializing happens in the parking lot before and after the brunch. These events usually have numbers ranging 20-30 members.

These brunches are not only an excellent social opportunity, but a chance to learn more good places to dine. Many locations offer other things to do after eating. So drive your Porsche and join us. Casual is the word and good friends are there with you. Dates & places are on our website, Facebook page, and in our weekly blog. See you there!

Cars 'n Coffee Famous Anthony's

Winter was warmer than usual allowing for a January Cars 'n Coffee at Famous Anthony's in Roanoke. Members were glad to be able to have a January event as the weather is usually too unpredictable. While it was a little too cold for the usual parking lot socializing, it was warm enough for doughnuts before brunch. Many people like to start a meal with dessert.



Don't those doughnuts look scrumptious?

It felt good to be able to drive our cars in January, and be able to dine with friends to talk about future Blue Ridge Region events. Several good ideas were noted for the future Planning Session.

Cars 'n Coffee Blue Ridge Bagels

One of our favorite stops is Blue Ridge Bagels in Lynchburg, VA. Locally owned and operated, it serves New York bagels with various toppings, and sub sandwiches. The large parking lot offers members plenty of room to socialize before eating. Customers were surprised and thrilled to see the Porsches there, and many spent time looking over the cars and taking pictures.



Members starting to arrive for the March Cars 'n Coffee. We look forward to being at this location.

Your editor is a frequent guest, and is glad our members also enjoy eating there. Blue Ridge Region members support locally owned businesses.



Members eat and talk in a friendly atmosphere. We look forward to being at this location.

Blue Ridge Region supports local businesses and tries to schedule events with them. We hope our support of the 2020 pandemic helped them through the lean time.

Cars 'n Coffee The Neighbors Place

Our first weekday event was a success with 23 members in attendance at The Neighbors Place in Lynchburg. The weather was cloudy and cool when we arrived, and with a few raindrops as we left, but the atmosphere inside was warm and friendly.

Two long-time members, who had been unable to attend events, were able to attend and everyone was happy to see them again. Everything at the restaurant was excellent making it a possible "visit again" location.

With the success of our first weekday event, more are being planned for this year. We hope to see you there

Right Above: Members stood under the entry roof to avoid the rain sprinkles and cool wind. Socializing in the parking lot and looking at cars was not possible.

Right Below: Once inside, members had a warm and comfortable area in which to enjoy each other and the food.



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Cars 'n Coffee Old Oak Cafe

Overnight thunderstorms made our Saturday drive to Old Oak Café in Moneta, VA damp and a little foggy. Most roads were dry and the temperatures were comfortable. Not the best start to our event, but not unpleasant.



As usual, there was much parking lot socializing before our reservation time. Old Oak Café is one of our favorite restaurants, and everything there was superb in every way. There was a lot of conversation in the room, that is until the food arrived. While there, former Blue Ridge Region members Eddie and Terri Fort happened by from their new home in North Carolina. Their visit was an added pleasure. Don't you love an unexpected surprise? After eating there was the additional socializing in the parking lot and the good-byes that go with the end of every event. The weather was mostly clear and warm so we put the top down for the trip home.

Several members, including my wife and I, decided to take the scenic route home with a stop at Carter's General Store in Leesville, VA along the way. Blue Ridge Region has a lot to see and visit, even if it is just the drive home. If you have not been to a 1900s general store you should visit this one. It is like a walk through history. Some members decided the desserts were too good to pass up. My apple pie was superb!

An added attraction was Doug's Porsche 912, with Hawaii license plates, fresh from some restoration work done by our own Mark Morrison. I suspect that car has traveled the longest distance to get to Blue Ridge Region.



FLASHBACK 2010: We visited the Cass Scenic Railroad in Cass, WV.



Blue Ridge Region members who decided to stop at Carter's General Store on the way home from Cars 'n Coffee in Moneta posed for a group photo before continuing home.



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Cars 'n Coffee IHOP

It was partly cloudy in the Lynchburg area as members started the drive to Roanoke, VA to attend Cars 'n Coffee. It was not long before it looked like the sunny skies were going to be short lived. The skies got cloudy, but everyone stayed dry.



Arrival at IHOP was thankfully uneventful. Other members started to arrive and everyone enjoyed the socializing outside before brunch.



After going inside, we were greeted by friendly staff who were well prepared for our group.

The menu had something for everyone, and this person ordered a sampler plate. Everyone liked the food and atmosphere, and said they will return.



Before leaving, Gene, David, and Dave posed for "the best shirt" photo. Who do you think has the best shirt?



We had a new member attend his first Blue Ridge Region event. Jonathan arrived in his Macan GTS in Midnight Blue. It looked spectacular!



Before leaving, Laura gave Jonathan a copy of Blau Rain.



We will be looking forward to seeing him at our Cars 'n Coffee in June.

NOTE: Most of our events require registration as many places limit attendees. Attendance is limited to members, their family, and invited guests. We use MotorsportReg.com to register for our events.



FLASHBACK 2015: Planning session at Martin's German Service in Roanoke, VA.

Planning club events takes time and good food. It takes a while to plan events for a year and many suggestions have to be evaluated.

An advertisement for SportsCar Clinic. The top half shows a red and white sports car and a yellow sports car parked in a garage. A gold circular badge with a black border and a ribbon at the bottom reads "Celebrating 40 years 1976-2018". Below the cars, the website "www.wefiximports.com" is displayed. The bottom half of the ad has a yellow background with the "SportsCar Clinic" logo on the left, which includes a silhouette of a person holding a flag. To the right of the logo, the text reads "Quality Import Service, GUARANTEED." followed by the address "3328 Peters Creek Rd. Roanoke VA" and the phone number "540-563-1133".

Cars 'n Coffee Acorn Hill Bistro

The weather Finally returned to June normal with sunny skies and warm temperatures. Everyone's drive to Acorn Hill Bistro in Lynchburg, VA was a welcome change from past events.

As we were entering the bistro, the wail of a siren caught our attention. Soon a Lynchburg Fire Department engine passed by on an unknown call.



After being seated there was the meeting of friends, and the enjoyment of making new friends. As usual we were a noisy group with many conversations in progress. An important part of these events is the people with whom we enjoy spending time.



Acorn Hill Bistro is a favorite of Blue Ridge Region with good food and friendly people. There were many different dishes chosen by our members. We know everyone enjoyed the food as the room became very quiet

after we were served.

Christa waved goodbye as Gene and she leave for home. Those eight LED daytime running lights have become somewhat of a Porsche trademark.



All too soon it was time to go home. Another enjoyable and successful event had ended. We look forward to the next event!



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Planning Session

Each year we have a planning session to begin our calendar of events. This year we met at The Green Goat for brunch before the planning session began. Several great ideas were selected and planning them began.



Blue Ridge Region members wait for their freshly prepared omelet before planning began.



Blue Ridge Region President Troy Smith prepares to start the planning session after our brunch.



Werks Reunion

Monterey, CA 18 August

PCA Open House

Porsche Club of America
Columbia, MD
9 September

Treffen Fall 2023

Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis
St Louis, MO
20 Sep. - 24 Sep.

Treffen at Sea 2023

Ft. Lauderdale, FL
9 December - 16 December

Parade 2024

Birmingham, AL
9 June - 16 June

Something a Little Different



Above: One member decided to drive his 1967 Land Rover to a Cars 'n Coffee event. Someone said it was an early Cayenne prototype.



Right: Have you seen a car in a car? Or maybe Macan parts coming together? Lens filters can make some very different photographs.



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FLASHBACK 2022: Full course caution at Virginia International Raceway. The Porsche Corral/Porscheplatz is a favorite event for Blue Ridge Region members. Usually there are 100+ Porsches there. Parade laps are a favorite,

Finish Line

2023 has been a better year in Blue Ridge Region. With COVID restrictions lifted, life has returned to near pre-pandemic normal. Events are easier to schedule and are better attended. Peoples' moods have greatly improved.

Our club exists because of its people. Dedicated volunteers make it possible. Our sponsors, advertisers, and supporters contribute both money and time to make us successful. Please remember to support those who support us.

Thank you to each person, organization, and contributor contributing to our success in 2023. Without you we are not a club.

Lastly, Porsche Club of America with its organization and support make Parade, Treffen, DEs, and many other events possible.

Whether your participation in PCA goes from Panorama reader to attending all PCA events, a large team and many hours go into planning and execution. Please consider volunteering for one of the open positions we have. Blue Ridge Region runs on volunteers. Look in this publication or on our website for opportunities.

Blau Rain*

BLUE RIDGE REGION
PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

Blau Rain is the official newsletter of the Blue Ridge Region, Porsche Club of America; available only by subscription to BRR members as a portion of the annual PCA dues. For subscriptions for non-BRR PCA members, contact the Editor.

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Uncredited photos and articles are by the editor.


Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month. Please check the website calendar for time and place.

***Blau Rain** is a 17th century German translation meaning Blue Ridge.

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CEL (Check Editor Light)

Please report any errors or omissions found in this magazine.
Send corrections and/or suggestions to editor@brr-pca.org



Sometimes the end looks as good as the beginning

Das Ende