

# Das Herz von Dixie



Jul 2026



L'Etoile Patisserie

Club Executive Committee

President – Jim Cambron

Vice-President- Jack Harding

Treasurer – Ed Stone

Secretary – Dane Tkacs

Past President – Dave Schroetter

Club Board of Directors

Nominating Committee Chair – John Nord

Membership Chair – Steve Ward

Social Committee Chair – Melanie Nord

Publication Chair – Mike Stokes

Webmaster – Greg Reese

Historian & Equipment Chair – Jim Cambron

*From the President* \_\_\_\_\_ 1  
*From the Editor* \_\_\_\_\_ 2  
*2nd Quarter Events* \_\_\_\_\_ 2  
*Member Articles* \_\_\_\_\_ 3-13  
*Financials* \_\_\_\_\_ 14

**From the President**

**Jim Cambron**



***Porsche Parade Lake Placid  
June 10-22, 2026***

***“Porsche Parades are the  
Greatest Automotive Week of  
Your Life!”***

If you’ve been in our Club for long, you’ve heard me say or have read this in my weekly emails.

Since attending my first Parade at Wesley Chapel, 2003, through the next twenty-two years to Oklahoma City, regardless of whether it was a City Parade, Golf Resort, Mountain Ski Resort, or a large Hotel Resort, Parades are famous for four competitive events: Concours, Autocross, TSD (Time, Speed, and Distance) Rally, and the Historic/Technical Quiz. Parades also have other popular events: Driving Tours, Gimmick Rally, 5km Walk/Run, and Parade of Porsches. Evenings include the Welcome Party, Presidents Reception, Concours Banquet, TSD Rally Banquet, (prior to this year the Autocross Banquet), and the Victory Banquet. Then, there’s the Art Show, Tech Tactics, Sim Racing, Cars and Community, and the Volunteer Party.

My twenty-two Parade venues are about evenly split with eight downtown city parades and ten resort hotel parades, plus three golf and ski resorts. Our first sell-out was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Hershey Parade in 2005. PCA members who didn’t make the cut for a hotel

room were told to book a room elsewhere; they could still participate in the major and minor events. However, after driving 762 miles from Huntsville to Hershey, they were not allowed to participate. This was unfair and very detrimental to PCA, you can ask some of our members caught in this unfortunate dilemma.

Parade policies were formulated to prevent a recurrence of this issue by booking large venues with adequate facilities to sleep, house, feed, and park attendees. PCA estimates Parade attendance by the number of PCA members living within 600 miles of the Parade site. Lake Placid is within that distance of sixteen major cities with thousands of PCA members (Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Cleveland, Detroit, and Pittsburg).

PCA was overjoyed when the Lake Placid Parade registered 1,475 Porsches with more than 3,000 member drivers and passengers—the largest Parade in our seventy-year history. Weather was a challenge with rain showers throughout the week, officially the weatherman reported rain six of the seven Parade days.

Regardless, scenery and the quaint little town were beautiful, with the best Italian cuisine I’ve ever tasted, and extraordinarily friendly people who welcomed us and loved our Porsches. Your Club representatives trophied in the competitive events and enjoyed the rallies and driving tours.

When driving events were over-booked and closed, members developed their own drives to the same advertised sites. Older PCA Parade attendees naturally compare each Parade with those previously attended, but new members are simply amazed to see driving tours with fifty or more Porsches, a 959 and other exotic Porsches parked on the street, and talking with members driving similar and completely different Porsches. Our eleven attendees report they really enjoyed the Parade. Competing in my '88 Targa at this year's Parade remains one of the greatest automotive weeks of my life, even in the rain!

By Jim Cambron



### From the Editor Mike Stokes



The cover image this quarter was taken at L' Etoile Patisserie French Bakery in Huntsville on Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup>. As Jim Cambron our President had just returned from the Parade of Porsches held this year in Lake Placid, New York, everyone was anxious to hear the details of the event. Jim shared that the next (71<sup>st</sup>) Annual Porsche Parade will be hosted in Boise, Idaho July 11-17, 2027.

This quarter's newsletter has three member articles. Melanie Nord (Social Committee Chair) authored an article endearing to all the Auburn fans titled "Alabama Adventure in Auburn." Martin Fogelmann provides us an article titled "2026 East Coast 356/912 Rendezvous." The Wachters (Jim and Carol) provide a trip report of the 2026 Porsche Parade at Lake

Placid, NY reminiscent of an Indiana Jones adventure. Please submit any news articles, ideas or comments to [stokes@aris.net](mailto:stokes@aris.net) and be a part of the next newsletter.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Events

- **May 2nd, Pit Stop Breakfast** at **Another Broken Egg, Madison**
- **May 14th, Porsche Display** on the **Providence Commons, Village of Providence neighborhood, Huntsville**
- **May 16th, Carlile's 5<sup>th</sup> Driving Tour** to **Smith Lake Trident Restaurant**
- **May 30th, Porsches & Coffee** hosted by **Cambron** at **Honest Coffee Roasters Madison**
- **May 30th, EuroBrit26**, Dublin Park, **Madison**
- **May 31st, EuroSunday**, N Huntsville
- **Jun 6th, Pit Stop Breakfast** at **Edgers Bakery, Airport Rd., Huntsville**
- **Jun 11th, Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting** at **Luigi's Italian Grill, Madison**
- **Jun 14-20<sup>th</sup>, Lake Placid Porsche Parade** 11 HOD attendees
- **Jun 20<sup>th</sup>, 11:30AM, Ladies that Lunch, Terra Italian Restaurant, Huntsville**

From the left we have Susan Fowler, Alice Hester, Melissa Mastando, Pam Collopy, Marcia Elkins,



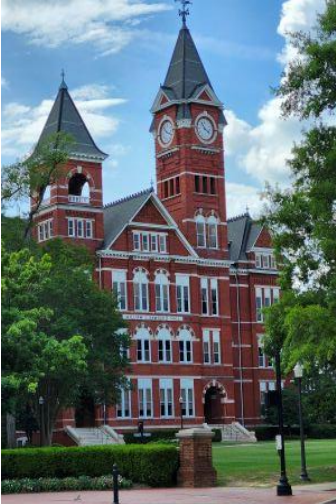
Cindy White, and Angela Ward. The next lunch meeting is scheduled for Sept. 24. Call or text Marcia Elkins (256) 783-6519 for more information

- **Jun 27th, Porsches & Coffee** hosted by **Melanie** at **L' Etoile Patisserie French Bakery, N, Huntsville**
- **Jun 28th, EuroSunday, N, Huntsville.**

## Member Articles

### Alabama Adventure in Auburn

by Melanie Nord



A few weekends ago, John and I had the pleasure of crashing the Florida Citrus Region's event, the Alabama Adventure in Auburn. I saw the event posted on Facebook while doom scrolling and asked if we could join them. I figured that Porsches, Auburn and family would be a lovely weekend. Our event

planner and hosts, Bert and Anne Del Villano, started us off with a wonderful BBQ dinner at their home in Auburn. We met several nice couples from the Florida Citrus region and received our packets. Of course, we eyed the cars parked outside and noted they were mostly Caymans, Boxsters and a few 911s. There was no Porsche SUV in sight. We returned to the hotel with full bellies and had a nice walk to Toomer's Corner and ready for the first drive on Friday.

Friday morning, we all met for the pre-tour meeting and were divided into two tour groups. Our first stop was lunch in the tiny town of Waverly, Alabama at the Wildflower Bakery. It was delicious! The sandwiches were made with homemade focaccia bread and were huge. Waverly was just a road and old homes when we drove through it on the way to the college back in our day. We sure wished the bakery had been in business then. We would've been regulars!



**AWARDS PRINTING & MAILING**

4415 Evangel Cir Huntsville, AL 35816



**YOUR ONE STOP SHOP FOR ENGRAVING & PRINTING.**





After lunch, we continued the tour to Horseshoe Bend National Park. The park ranger gave us a short history of the battle and park. We watched a good film and toured the small museum. It was very interesting. We then drove a 3-mile loop to see the battle sights and enemy hide-outs. The park has a very nice walking trail, but it was scorching outside. We were on our own back to Auburn and for the remainder of the evening. We met up with family for a casual dinner of pizza, beer and soccer. It was a fun day.



On Saturday morning, the group met up at Pioneer Park in Loachapoka, which is a very short distance from Auburn for a car show and several hours to roam and wander at the Lee County Historical Society museum and buildings. It was another scorching hot day. I think it was almost 90 degrees at 10:00 in the morning! And it was terribly humid. Many of the Floridians were quite upset about the heat and humidity and sought out shade seating. I remembered this is why I only attended summer classes once while at Auburn. It's just miserable there in the summer! Despite the heat, we toured the forge, cabins, strolled through the gardens and finally found a little AC in the museum. On the second Saturday of each month, a group of volunteers prepares and serves lunch for visitors to the park. We all sat on picnic tables in the park and enjoyed a fabulous southern dinner of squash casserole, carrot salad, green beans, tomatoes, potatoes, the best cornbread and blueberry cobbler with homemade ice cream. It was all delicious! Our park host, Charlie, shared the history of the park, buildings and the area with us. It was a fun time other than the heat.

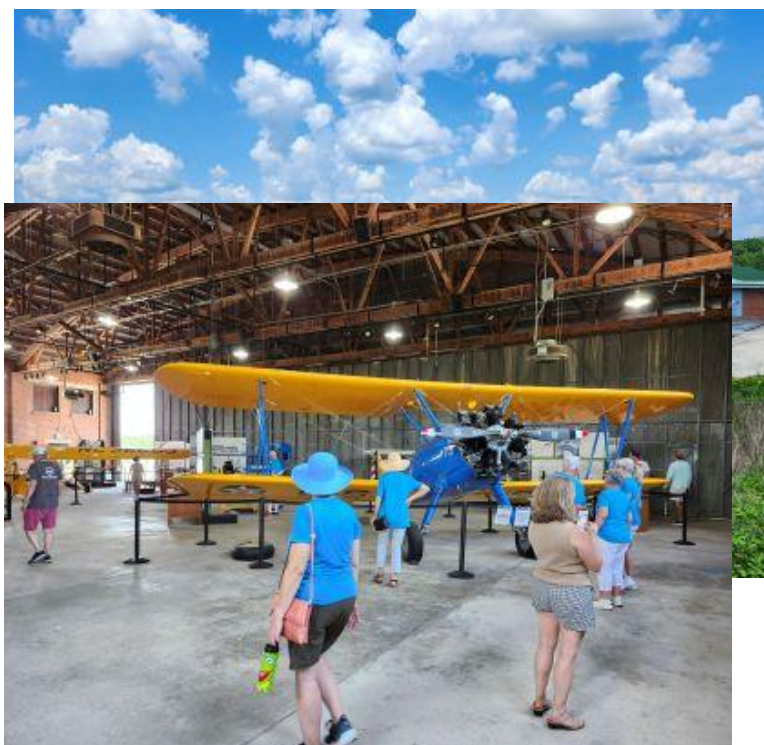


We continued with the drive to the Tuskegee Airmen Museum near Tuskegee, AL. On this tour we got separated and ended up leading a small group. John was great at navigating, so we were never lost. The museum is fabulous and very interesting. Although, it was a long walk from the parking lot to the hangars. The first hangar had airplanes on display and was not air-conditioned. So, we hurried through it to the other hangar which was slightly cooler. We watched a very good and very moving film and toured the museum. We had a scheduled time to leave, so we were a bit rushed through the museum. I would like to go back to spend more time there - in the fall or spring. The drive continued back to Auburn on some great driving roads with beautiful countryside. I was having a great time driving Red (our 781 Porsche) and it was a heavenly afternoon of driving and sightseeing.

# MARTIN'S CLASSIC CARS LLC



(256)801-7933



After some cold lemonade at Toomer's, we spent some time in our favorite places in Auburn just relaxing. Saturday evening, the event ended with a nice dinner and reception at the Auburn Hotel and Conference Center Dinner was delicious and we enjoyed good conversation with the Citrus region members. Bert gave us all a surprise technical quiz on Porsches and Alabama. Despite being native Alabamians, neither John nor I had the best score.

The Alabama Adventure was just that – a wonderful adventure. We visited new places, learned more about our state's history, had delicious meals, made new friends and enjoyed excellent driving tours. Once again, we discovered that Porsche friends are like Porsche family. Bert and Anne were excellent hosts, and everything was planned perfectly. If they

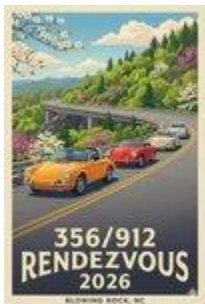
host this event again in the future, I recommend crashing their party!



by Melanie Nord.

## 2026 East Coast 356/912 Rendezvous

By Martin Fogelmann



On Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> with the recently completely restored '69 912 in my trailer I headed out toward the North Carolina mountains. There was a new event taking place in Blowing Rock called the 356/912 Rendezvous.

Fortunately, my long-time Porsche pal and car collector Jeff Files had invited me to stay at his place in Linville Ridge. It's a neighborhood on top of the mountain with spectacular views. Some very fortunate folks like Rusty Wallace have magnificent homes there behind a very heavily guarded gate.

After I parked my truck and trailer at the base of this ridge, I drove the 912 up to Jeff's house on the winding road lined by manicured sloping yards. I've never seen a prettier neighborhood. This drive up and down became the start and finish of every day while there.

The event was headquartered at the Meadowbrook Inn in Blowing Rock some 20 miles away from Linville. The roads chosen to get there and back were reminiscent of a mini-Tail of the Dragon. Included in

the weekend's activities were multiple group drives to various destinations including the Bristol oval raceway which I unfortunately missed. However, I managed some 300 miles of seriously fun roads. Amazingly, the 912 performed flawlessly over all 4 days. The drives were split into 4 groups from 58 attendants.

There are great restaurants in the area where 356 Registry members gathered with 912 owners for great camaraderie. Blowing Rock brewery was a major weekend sponsor that pampered the group all weekend.

The highlight of the trip and event was Saturday's car show that took place at Chip Perry's car barn, a 15,000 square foot palace full of completely restored collectibles. Chip, the former CEO of Autotrader, owns over 30 beautiful vintage cars. The majority are 356 and early 911 variants with some Italian cars and VW beetles and a bus.

At the car show Martin's Classic Cars had Jeff Files' 1959 356 Outlaw and the fresh '69 912 entered. I was very proud to share that both cars took 1<sup>st</sup> in class wins. We completed the build on the '59 Outlaw nearly 7 years ago. It won a 1<sup>st</sup> place at Amelia Island's Werks Reunion 5 years ago and has been shown several times with success since. Last weekend it beat a very expensive Emory built '59 356 for the top prize.

The 912 win may have been due to the quality of our paint work and the unique color Ossi blue and mild mechanical upgrades, but it was a surprise.











By Martin Folgmann



**Brents Pepper**  
 Southeastern Assurance Group  
 256-431-5346  
 brents@SAG-ins.com

Personalized Insurance Service for Your Porsche  
 with **HAGERTY**

**HAGERTY**   
 NEVER STOP DRIVING

## FIRST-TIME PARADERS

Jim and Carol Wachter

### PREPARATIONS



It seems inevitable when you say there's a first time for everything. But for us Wachtors, there have been more first times than we could ever count especially where travel is concerned! So, when I proposed the question to my wife whether we should or could go to the

2026 Porsche Parade, her answer was a resounding YES! That's all it took for me to formulate a plan for getting to Lake Placid, NY for the June 14-20 event. Carol's response was to immediately begin researching for where to stay at our stops along the way and once we arrived. Even though you couldn't actually register until Jan 28<sup>th</sup>, all our accommodations were reserved before Xmas!



Since we've owned a variety of Porsches over the last 40 years, why pick this year to attend? That's a really good question and a subject that we've certainly considered before. I spent some time pondering a bit before approaching Carol.

We so often shy away from events where large crowds gather be it for cars, sports or most anything else. I guess first would be that Lake Placid in Adirondack Park is a wonderfully picturesque area. Not to say that previous Parades were in less-than-ideal places, but Lake Placid was also the home of the February 1980 Winter Olympic Games which is the month and year when Carol & I were married in Spain! So, nostalgia certainly came into play. But I'm a Connecticut Yankee at heart, and any chance to explore a portion of New England that I haven't seen before just draws me in! And lastly, I plan to enter the Art Contest with a poster I created last year from some rare and unique Porsche bits and pieces that I'd collected over the years!

Eagerly waiting online for 11:00 am on Jan 28 to come, I found registration to be easy and fun. I had to wait in line for just 45 seconds before the form appeared for me to get started and, I drew #645 after paying the \$300 for registering. Now all we needed to do was wait and let the excitement continue to build until Phase 2. When Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> finally arrived, I was up early and logged on to the parade website watching the time tick away for registration to begin at 11:00 AM. Since we would not be entering the concours or joining in any of the featured drives or autocross events, I only had to focus on Tuesday's Concours Banquet and the Art Show. However, we planned to be attending many of the events offered as highly interested observers.

Surprise, Surprise! A glitch in their system caused a delay that was quickly resolved. So, we all had to go through this again when the process reopened at 2:00 PM. As with Phase 1, the process was very easy (once they worked out the glitch). I was able to reserve dinner for Carol and me on Tuesday night without delay. However, after reading all the info on the Art Show, I had to reconsider entering my poster. Although the entry cost was only \$40, the event planners wouldn't have any security during

the show. Since the poster has a substantial monetary value with several of the pieces being unique one-off creations, I decided not to risk bringing it! In addition, we had no idea of event costs yet \$100 per person for the banquet seemed realistic.

## OUR ODYSSEY BEGINS

By the time the second week of June began, I had Jinjer (our SUV) loaded with everything Carol had packed except for the cooler. We were both bursting with excitement and ready to get back on the road! Friday, June 12, turned out to be a lovely day, and 7:00 am found us leaving our home in high anticipation of sights to come! Nine hours and 500 miles later we were pulling into Troutville just north of Roanoke, VA. Angelle's Diner served one of the tastiest meals we've had and is well worth a stop if you're in this area!

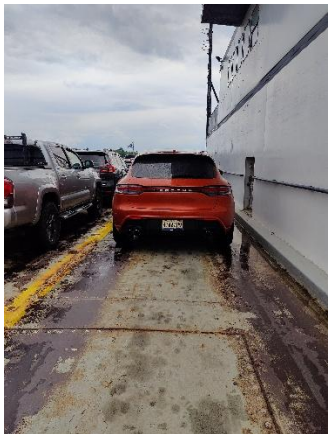
The rains came Friday night, but bright blue skies and dry roads greeted us once again for our 7:30 am departure on Saturday! It's a little eerie that we both felt like we were on an amended extension of our Macaning Across America trip that we took last year. More on that later! Only 8 hours and 465 miles on the road today brought us to Binghamton, NY for the night where a meal at Red Chile 2 calmed two hearty appetites!



Sunday 8:00 am – Back up to speed on I-88 heading east! Only a few miles out, I saw a Miami blue Porsche coming up the on-ramp and pulling in behind us.

It couldn't be..... but YES, it was Katy and Frank in her 2018 Cayman! They hadn't seen our Macan before, so they weren't quite sure it was us. All smiles and waves, we drove together for a spell with us tagging along through the scenic New York countryside. They suggested a fuel stop in Schenectady where we had a fun chat about the improbability of our meeting. Since Katy is from this area, she took us through the back roads to reach I-87 without having to pay the I-90 tolls to get across the river! Now heading north, they took the Lake George exit to meet old friends for lunch while we pressed on.

We saw several more Porsches on the road before coming into Saranac Lake, NY where there were Porsches everywhere! But the rains had returned, so many of the converts had slowed to put their tops back up. It was only 12:30 and despite the rain, registration at the High School was in full swing. The many volunteers were so helpful in directing us, and as first-time attendees, we had a personal guide to get us through the masses of people to the proper tables set up in the school's gym for our badges and orange goodie-filled backpack. All-in-all about 30 minutes is all it took, and we were out for lunch at the A-1 Buffet just down the road. Sitting in the restaurant, we enjoyed watching a steady stream of Porsches coming and going; all types, colors and ages!



But there wouldn't be much more to do today, so we headed north toward Plattsburg and the ferry that would take us across Lake Champlain to Vermont. With the Burlington ferry no longer in service, this was our only option to get to our resort. Using our timeshare, we had booked

a week at the Smugglers Notch Resort in VT. It's a sprawling conglomeration of buildings supporting a beehive of activity for hikers in summer and skiers during winter. Nestled in Jeffersonville near the highest point in Vermont, the scenic viewing is awesome! Here we had a large 1-bedroom suite with a full kitchen rather than another hotel room;

**PCA Members receive 10% off all services**

**ALL MOTOR GARAGE LLC**  
**256-441-0163**

[allmotorgarage1026@gmail.com](mailto:allmotorgarage1026@gmail.com)  
1026 Kelly Spring Rd. Harvest AL 35749



but it's a 2-hour+ drive to Lake Placid and just 28 miles from the Canadian border. And we were both fine with that.

Monday it was raining again, so we opted not to drive back for the concours. However, Tuesday was another story with a sunny blue sky that was begging us to drive. I spent the morning cleaning Jinjer, as I couldn't let her be seen in such a filthy state at Parade! We left in the afternoon to check out the Parade Store before heading into the banquet that evening. Parking turned out not to be a problem for us, as I got a disabled spot right in front of the Parade Store! The offerings at the Parade Store held nothing of interest for either of us, so we sat out in front of the Olympic center just watching Porsches passing in review up and down Main Street.



We went directly into the Herb-Brooks Ice Skating Arena right at 5:30pm. They wouldn't open up entry until 6:15 so we went looking for a place to sit when we saw Jim Cambron getting the last of his

signs ready. He said he had taken 2<sup>nd</sup> place in his class but had earned an important Gmund rating as well! As we found out later, these ratings are worth a substantial increase if you plan to sell your vehicle down the road! My knees got us in a little early to find our table and be seated before the masses came in. The venue was nicely arranged as we relaxed watching the staff meeting for all the servers. Once the dining area filled up, we found ourselves sitting with a judge and his family along with a retired German former Porsche of Atlanta Rep no one we knew. Katy and Frank were at the table next to us, and we could see Jim at a table on the other side of the central podium.



The meals sounded pretty good but were actually nothing to brag about. They certainly weren't worth the price! So, we concluded that you were paying for the ambiance and the chance to sit with other Porsche enthusiasts that you probably wouldn't know. It didn't help that ours was one of the last tables served as at the tables around us, people were finished before we ever got started! By 8:00 right after dinner, we had to leave as we would be making

the 2.5-hour drive back to the ferry across to Vermont mostly in the dark. On two separate occasions my concerns became real. A large deer bounded across the road right in front of us, but I wasn't driving too fast and neither one stopped! And during that ride back Carol and I came to a revelation!

## THE REVELATION

I'm sure I will raise some eyebrows with this, but remember it is only our opinion and applies solely to us! The question we discussed was whether we would want to attend another Parade. The answer is both NO and YES! Since I have no aspirations to compete in the types of events offered at the national level, the answer is NO; not as a PCA entrant. However, if a future Parade were located within a 500-mile radius of our Alabama home in an area that had more to offer besides the Parade, then YES, we would surely go but just as spectators!

Now that I've spit that out, I also need to say how happy we were to attend this particular year's Parade. A once-in-a-lifetime event that came with a few unique gifts in our backpack of goodies. Thursday morning it was raining hard once again which prompted us to forego driving back to watch the autocross event. Despite this, the scenery during our drives through both New York and Vermont when the weather was perfect were spectacular. And then there's those cars; we never get tired of watching or hearing them! The organization and caring of more than 1000 volunteers certainly made the overall extravaganza a joy to experience. Plus, the historical aspect of just being in this place is priceless, and we will keep those memories of joy with us always!

As I stated earlier, this trip seemed more and more like an extension of our "Macaning Across America tour". So, embracing those feelings also served to keep our happiness levels very high! And if treating this trip as an amendment of last year's exploration, we had traveled through another 9 states in 2 weeks totaling 3,235 miles.

**States 20 thru 28; Georgia, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, Massachusetts & Connecticut, Plus WDC.**

Jinjer again performed flawlessly, and we remain humbly thankful to the staff at Porsche of Ocala and to the Porsche factories for providing us with the two prettiest vehicles we've ever owned; both making us proud to drive them anytime, anywhere!

By Jim Wachter; Photos by Carol Wachter

**PORSCHE**  
IS OUR  
**PASSION**  
CALL OR TEXT 256.702.5185  
www.trisslsportscars.com

**TRISSL**  
SPORTS CARS

256.702.5185 | edarby@trisslsportscars.com | 519 Wilhite Street | Florence, AL

Instagram Facebook YouTube TikTok

Trissl Sports Cars is in no way affiliated with Porsche Cars North America. We are not a Porsche® Authorized Dealer, nor do we represent ourselves as a Porsche Franchise Dealer.

FREDDIE LOUIS  
President

Office (256) 858-9221  
Fax (256) 858-2390  
info@freddielouis.com

**FLAA**  
**FREDDIE LOUIS AUTO ACCESSORIES**

Automotive Accessories Specialists  
111 IMPORT CIRCLE, HUNTSVILLE, AL 35806  
www.freddielouis.com

**katzkin**  
LEATHER INTERIORS

**ADVENT**  
MOBILE ELECTRONICS

**LLumar**  
WINDOW FILM

### PRODUCTS & SERVICES

- MOBILE VIDEO SYSTEMS
- NAVIGATION SYSTEMS
- BACK-UP CAMERA SYSTEMS
- BLIND SPOT INDICATOR
- BLUE TOOTH HANDS-FREE KITS
- REMOTE START
- SMART START/CELLULAR REMOTE START PACKAGE
- LANE DEPARTURE/FRONT COLLISION AVOIDANCE/DVR
- LEATHER INTERIORS
- SEAT HEATING/COOLING
- WINDOW TINTING
- PAINT / WINDSHIELD PROTECTON FILM
- CERAMIC COATING
- SEAT LUMBAR SUPPORT
- FOG LIGHTS
- SPOILERS
- ROOF RACKS
- CRUISE CONTROL
- LED LIGHTING
- BACK-UP SENSOR SYSTEMS
- REMOTE LASER AND RADAR DETECTORS
- AUTO ALARMS
- KEYLESS ENTRY
- SIRIUSXM SATELLITE RADIO
- SIDE STEPS
- BRUSH & GRILL GUARDS
- RUNNING BOARDS
- POWER DOOR LOCKS
- POWER WINDOWS
- TRAILER HITCHES
- TRUCK TOOL BOXES
- HARD & SOFT TONNEAU COVERS
- WINDOW VENT SHADES
- CUSTOM SEAT COVERS
- LEATHER STEERING WHEEL WRAPS
- CUSTOM GRAPHICS
- CUSTOM FABRICATIONS
- VIDEO DASH CAMERAS
- AND MORE

**AUTHORIZED INSTALLATION CENTER**

