

"It's one heck of an event. I think you're going to get a lot of people that want to come back."

Chris Hoyt
PCA's Florida Crown Region and head judge of Werks Reunion Amelia

Hundreds of Porsches are spread out in the corral on the first fairway of the Oak Marsh golf course at the Omni Amelia Island Resort for the Porsche Club of America Werks Reunion.

'It's not the cars, it's the people'

By Cassidy Alexander
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Hundreds of Porsche owners bring cars to Werks Reunion

It's easy to imagine being in another era or another world, when walking through hundreds of pristine, glistening Porsches on the rolling hills of a golf course. The music playing could be the soundtrack of a country picnic in the '50s full of kids digging into apple pie; a beach day in the '20s, with young people splashing in the water and wearing pinstriped bathing costumes; or it could be a day in 2017 when more than 650 Porsche owners get together and catch up over their shared adoration for the brand.

The first-ever Porsche Club of America Werks Reunion Amelia Island took place on March 10 at the Omni Amelia Island Resort. Porsche owners and enthusiasts from around the country came to this casual event, previously hosted annually in Monterey, Calif.

Chris Hoyt, a member of the PCA's Florida Crown Region and head judge of Werks Reunion Amelia, was blown away with the turnout.

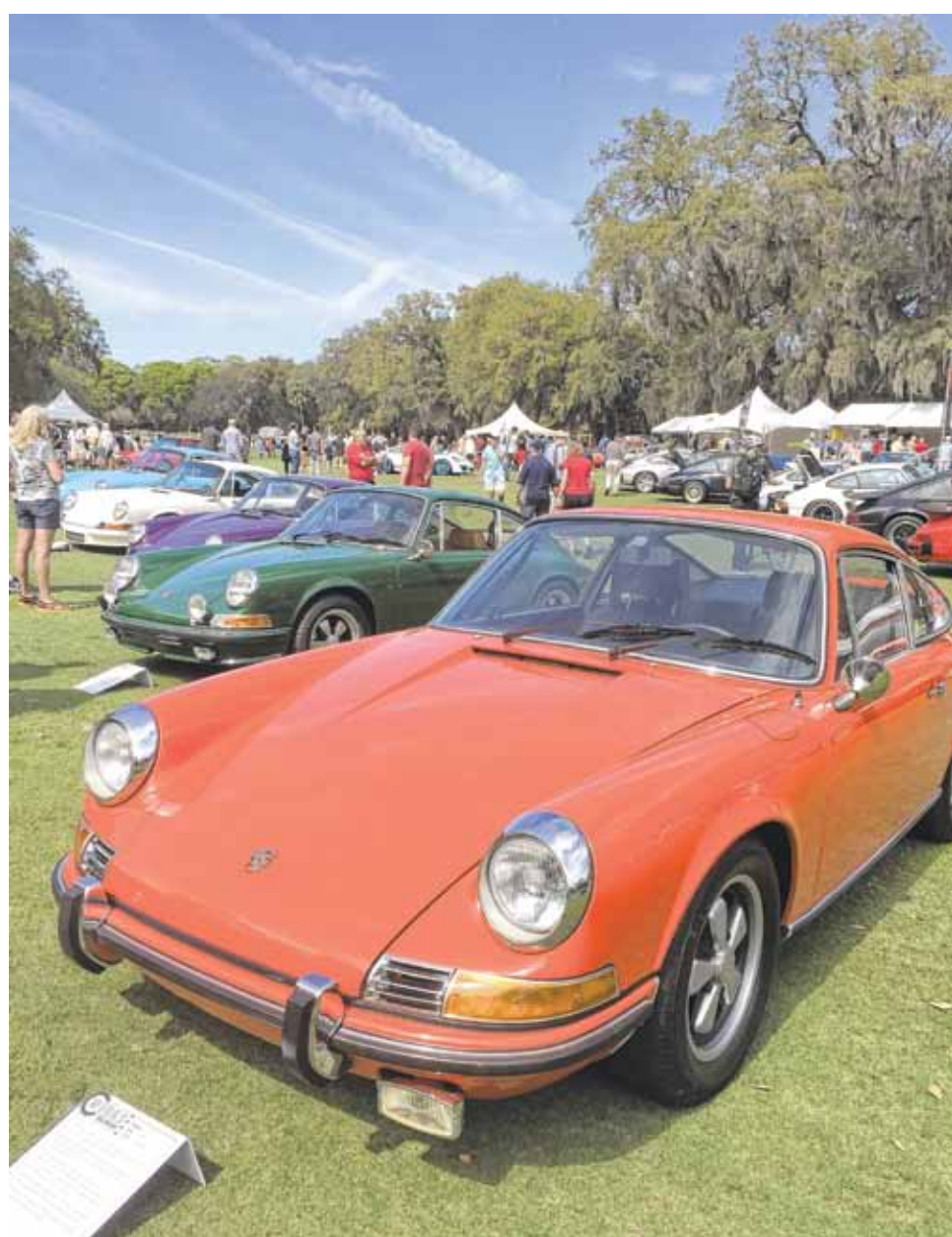
"You just didn't know what you were going to get going out of the gate," he said.

According to Tom Provasi, Werks Reunion chairman, there were thousands of spectators, although it was hard to determine an exact number because the event had several different access points. With this turnout, it beat the first reunion held at Monterey in 2014.

"It was pretty much outstanding, an overwhelming success," Provasi said of the Amelia Island event. "Almost every email I've gotten so far has been praising it."

The corral of Porsches extended over hills on the first fairway of the Oak Marsh golf course, where owners could put their cars on display. They came in waves of varying models and colors, but all exhibited the unifying characteristics of Porsche: a sleek combination of sport and style; a sense that the car can move fast, but the driver's windswept hair will always seem to be moving in slow motion; and of course, a Porsche devotee to own it.

On the second fairway were the judged cars. They were arranged in long rows stretching over the lush grass. People milled around between them, walking at a leisurely pace and trying to take everything in. Old friends laughed with each other and inspected the cars they passed. People sat in chairs on the outer edges of the arrangement, watching the scene unfold.



On the second fairway, rows of cars line up for judging at the Werks Reunion Amelia. (Photos by Cassidy Alexander)

Two of those spectators were also participants. Alan and Janet Boe came from Braselton, Ga., to show off their car — a 1979 Porsche 930 Turbo in one-of-a-kind Gulf Racing Blue. The car still has its original paint, interiors, motors and mechanical parts, Alan Boe said, and the car won first place in the 911/912 1974-89 category.

The couple has owned the car for 26 years. They bought it after searching for months based on photographs someone mailed them.

"It's been a great car," Alan said. "I don't think I'll ever sell it."

Alan cited the way the car drives, the way it looks, its color, its flared fenders and its 300 horsepower as reasons he likes his car.

As for the event, the Boe's had a good time. "Porsche people are really nice people," Janet said. "Very complimentary, very nice, very interested."

The official motto of the Porsche Club of America is, "It's not the cars, it's the people." And that's what people had to say about the event.

Jim Medici, a 2004 Boxster S owner from

Greer, S.C., said the level of enthusiasm at the show is what sets Porsche owners apart from other car owners.

"Porsche people are pretty fanatical," he said. "Combine that with the fact that most of the guys are Type A personalities — combine those two things, and it makes them pretty rabid."

Medici said he's owned sports cars his whole life, but is most fanatical about his Porsche.

Steve Taft, from Atlanta, has owned several Porsches but didn't show one March 10. The relaxed atmosphere at the reunion was perfect for what he and others wanted to do.

"There's a mutual admiration for the cars, but there's a lot of friends here, first and foremost," Taft said.

With the grass covered in Porsches from every decade and fans of the company scattered all over Amelia Island, Hoyt and Provasi are hopeful that next year's reunion can be hosted in Florida as well.

"It's one heck of an event," Hoyt said. "I think you're going to get a lot of people that want to come back."

CLASS WINNERS

- Category — Winner — Car — Location**
 356 Closed — Steve Hoffman — 1964 356C Coupe — Fla.
 365 Open — Christian Carlson — 1965 356C Cabriolet — N.C.
 911/912 '65-'68 — Harry Covington — 1966 911 — Ohio
 911/912 '69-'73 — Bob Miller — 1973 911E — Md.
 911/912 '74-'89 — Alan Boe — 1979 930 Turbo — Ga.
 964/993 — Michael Mulligan — 1994 964 Turbo 3.6 — N.J.
 996/997 — Harold Corbin — 2006 Club Coupe — Ga.
 991 — James Gibson — 2016 911 Carrera Cabriolet — N.C.
 914/914-6 — Kevin Meany — 1970 914-6 — S.C.
 924/944/968/928 — Daniel Tauriello — 1990 944S2 — Ga.
 Boxster — Joe Topinka — 2016 Boxster Spyder — Fla.
 Cayman — Bob Lawrence — 2016 Cayman GT4 — N.C.
 LTD Prod/Factory Race — Don Ahearn — 1968 911 Group 3 — N.Y.
 Special Interest/Modified — David Cleary — 2011 GT3RS (RSR conversion) — Fla.
 Outlaws/R-Gruppe/Tribute — Marc Woonter — 1962 356B — Fla.

CORPORATE AWARD WINNERS

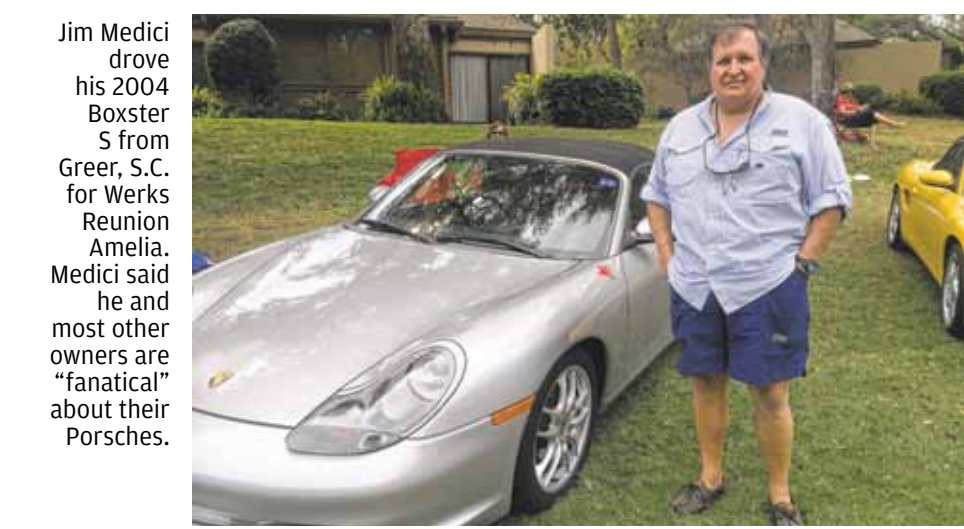
- Category — Winner — Car — Location**
 Leland West — Phil Bagley — 1967 911S — Fla.
 DC Automotive — Road Scholars — 2008 Cayman GTR — N.C.
 Reliable Carriers — Steve Palmer — 2007 911 Turbo — Fla.
 MCK Engineering — Al Thomas — 2008 911 GT2 — Fla.
 LN Engineering — Bryan Barker — 2016 Cayman GT4 — Fla.
 Hollywood Wheels — George Biskup — 1993 911 RS America — Ariz.
 Porsche — Bob Kuchenbecker — 1998 911 Carrera 2S — Ga.
 Pirelli — Rusty Russ — 1970 911S — Ga.



Reunion attendance was estimated to be in the thousands by Tom Provasi, Werks Reunion Amelia chairman.



Alan and Janet Boe's 1979 Porsche 930 Turbo, which they have owned for 26 years, won first place in the 911/912 1974-89 category.



Jim Medici drove his 2004 Boxster S from Greer, S.C. for Werks Reunion Amelia. Medici said he and most other owners are "fanatical" about their Porsches.

AWARDS Continued from F-3

- Watersport Boats
Monterey Boats: Stern-drive Bowrider Boats, Monterey Cuddy and Express Boats
Nautique Boat Company: Inboard Watersport Boats
Nitro Boats: Fiberglass Outboard Boats
Pathfinder: Fiberglass Outboard Boats
Pleasurecraft Engine Group: Inboard

- Engines
Premier Marine: Pontoon Boats
Pursuit Boats: Fiberglass Outboard Boats
Regal Boats: Deck Boats, Stern-drive Bowrider Boats
Regency: Pontoon Boats
Regulator: Fiberglass Outboard Boats
Robalo Boats: Fiberglass Outboard Boats
Sea Ray Boats: Deck Boats, Fiberglass Outboard Boats, Stern-drive Bowrider Boats

- Skeeter:** Fiberglass Outboard Boats
Skier's Choice — Moomba: Inboard Watersport Boats
Skier's Choice — Supra: Inboard Watersport Boats
Smoker Craft Boats: Aluminum Outboard Boats, Deck Boats, Pontoon Boats
Stingray: Fiberglass Outboard Boats, Stern-drive Bowrider Boats
Sun Tracker: Pontoon Boats
Suzuki: Outboard Engines
Tahoe: Deck Boats, Fiberglass Outboard Boats, Stern-drive Bowrider Boats

- Tiara Yachts:** Inboard Express Cruisers, Inboard Fishing Express Boats
Tige: Inboard Watersport Boats
Tracker: Aluminum Outboard Boats
Volvo Penta of the Americas: Stern-drive Engines
Yamaha: Jet Boats, Outboard Engines

For more information about the Marine Industry Customer Satisfaction Index program, contact Steve Pizzolato at AVALA Marketing at stevep@avalamar-keting.com or (636) 343.9988.