

Visit to Amelia Island Werks Reunion

By Dave Schroetter

On my bucket list for some time has been a trip to Werks Reunion. Two years of dealing with the COVID pandemic made me determined to check that box this year. The event occurs at the beginning of March with this year being March 4. I reserved our spot to show the 928 the first day registration opened in January, as the event does sell out for having your car in the show. Attendance at the event is free and open to the public. It is a one-day event but is part of a larger weekend happening including auctions, cars and coffee and a Concours d'Élégance.

Amelia Island is a long day's drive from the Huntsville area if you are into 8-9 hours of driving. Ann and I are no longer interested in seeing how far we can travel as fast as possible. Our plan was to do the drive over two days and take roads less traveled, and avoid Atlanta at all costs. Our first day's travel took us to Columbus, GA with our route being a 5-hour drive plus the time zone change. The second day we had a leisurely drive to Kingsland, GA which is about 30 minutes north of Amelia Island. We preferred to stay outside the island area as it is very crowded and chaotic.



928's lined up at the Werks Reunion.

We had to arrive at the staging area at 7:00 AM the morning of the reunion to be positioned on a fairway of the Amelia River Golf Club. There were 750 Porsches on display on two fairways; one for display and one for judged cars. We were in a corral display for transaxle Porsches that included 928, 968, 944 and 924s. The judging of the Porsches is not the same as it is at Porsche Parade Concours in that it is not all about who has removed the most dust from the deepest crevices, but rather rewards the Porsche that has been lovingly maintained and presents itself well on the field.



You can never have too many Porsches.

There are vendors, food trucks, and bar stations throughout the event area. Staff from PCA national and PCNA are in attendance doing presentations and prize drawings from a stage area. This year, personnel from Porsche Classic in Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen, presented a custom-designed restoration of a 1999 911 (996) to PCA which will be displayed at events this year and next and then auctioned off in 2023. You can see and read about the car by googling, “Porsche Classic and PCA unveil 996-gen Porsche.”



Ageless beauty.

The weather was beautiful with a clear sky, slight breeze and temps in the mid-70's. I was told that the bugs can be bothersome but apparently the breeze was enough to keep them at bay. The transaxle corral was on a part of the fairway that was intersected by a ravine and a footbridge crossing which gave us not only a more open feeling but a very nice view as well. The fairway was a sea of Porsches which seemingly went on forever. The cars were generally grouped by models, but a few late arrivers ended up being interspersed, which made them look out of place. There was every flavor of Porsche on display with rarely seen models and colors. Everything from pure original, outlaws, everyday drivers, and race cars.

It took several forays for us to take in all the cars, booths, presentations, food and drink. Nothing like walking around taking in the atmosphere, sunshine and Porsches with a cocktail or glass of wine in your hand. We met some old friends from around the region and made a few new ones. I was able to garner some useful facts, information and contacts regarding 928's. It is such a great place to meet other Porsche model-specific people. Next time I may attend in one of my other cars to see who I meet. We even did a little shopping with Ann finding a PCA vest that she really liked and I unearthed an original Porsche promotional 928 S4 diecast model I added to my collection.



Carrera GT supercar. Lucky owner!

One long day and suddenly, it's over. But it is such a great opportunity to see so many Porsches and talk with so many like-minded people. It has a much more relaxed feel than Parade and people seem to have more time and are willing to talk, unlike Parade where people always seem to be heading to the next event or meeting. It is a lot of travel for one day but if you make the trip part of the event it feels much more rewarding. Unless it rains!