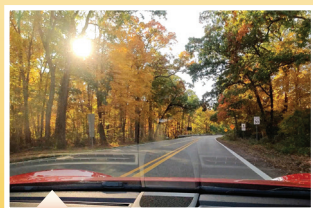




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Accepting the Enthusiast of the Year Award - Tom Fielitz

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SEM Holiday Party

Plus more inside -

- 'Haptics' by Tom Fielitz
- Street Survival School
- Membership Meeting
- Tom Walton Tribute



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Event Announcement

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*Tom Fielitz accepting
Enthusiast of the Year Award
from Howard Gilson*

Photo by Lisa Molzon

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Porsche Club Of America



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2025 SEM/PCA CALENDAR

JANUARY 2025

9 Business Meeting
11-20 *Detroit Auto Show

FEBRUARY 2025

6 Business Meeting
22 Henry Ford Museum Tour
28-2 *Autorama

MARCH 2025

6 Business Meeting
15 SIM Racing at Superlap Drive Studio

Future Event Possibilities:

This is a starting point of events for the 2025 Calendar Year.
Events may be added, deleted or dates changed as desired.

APRIL 2025

3 Business Meeting
5 Munk's Tech Session
TBD DE-101 at M1
26 Swap Meet at Nikolas Motorsports

MAY 2025

1 Business Meeting
3 New Member Gathering - Automedic
TBD DE #1 at Waterford
10 Spring Tour
18 3D Detailing Session
31-2 *Detroit Grand Prix

*Not an SEMPCA event

All Dates and Events are subject to confirmation

01-11-25 FCY



The club has reset & updated the club calendar. PLEASE download the **NEW SEM/PCA CALENDAR** Link to instructions on how to add SEM / PCA Calendar to your PC, Laptop, iOS, Android and Windows devices. <https://sem.pca.org/2017/11/27/new-calendar/>
The New SEM/PCA Website/Cellular Calendar is now ready to be DOWNLOADED
Keep up to date on all the SEM / PCA events. Get the latest most up to date information.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

Stay abreast of the latest PCA/SEM News!

Please log-in to pca.org (Membership/My Account/Edit tabs) to verify your contact information is up to date.
Numerous members have missing or incorrect E-mail addresses.

BUSINESS MEETINGS

Business meetings are typically held on the first Thursday of the month at various locations.
Please note: for anyone interested in attending future Business meetings, please contact any board member.

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President's Column



ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY LISA MOLZON - SEM PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to everyone!

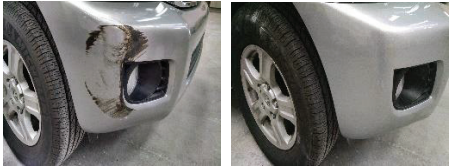
As we usher in the new year, I'd like to recognize the leadership that Howard Gilson has provided as President the past two years, as well as the commitment that Walt Crump and Lucas Phan displayed while serving on the Board of Directors - thank you, gentlemen. As we start 2025, you will see more of our new Board Members: Cedric Alexanian and Bobby Tarchinski - thank you both in advance for your time and energy in keeping the SEMPCA thriving. Additionally, during the October election, both Howard Gilson and myself were re-elected to the Board and we look forward to continuing our efforts to guide the club forward.

And three cheers for our 2024 Enthusiast of the Year: Tom Fielitz! Celebrated at our Holiday Party in December, Tom has graced us with this editorial contributions, his esteemed coaching skills, and his unwavering support of SEMPCA during his 53 years of membership. Thank you for your dedication to the club and all you have done, Tom!

Although many of our Porsches may have already been put away for the Michigan winter, we concluded the year with some popular events. Kudos to:

- Marc Molzon for chairing the 11/9 annual teen driver's Tire Rack (R) Street Survival school at M1 Concourse, enlisting 28 volunteer instructors and assistants for the day.
- Jim Williams for securing Larry Webster, current author at Hagerty Media, as our Guest Speaker at the 11/15 Membership Dinner at the Alibi of Troy restaurant.
- Howard Gilson for chairing the 12/6 2nd annual Holiday Lights Tour, providing a dinner and tour of the Wayne County Holiday Lightfest during the holiday season.
- Patti Door and Mark and Rene Vander Eyk for co-chairing the 12/13 annual Holiday Party and Silent Auction at Red Run Golf Club.

(continued on page 8)



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President Howard Gilson with Tom Fielitz, well-deserved recipient of the 2024 Enthusiast of the Year Award

- Jim and Laurie Williams, Howard Gilson and Chris Bohr for their additional efforts at the Holiday Party supporting the event chairs and ensuring a successful event.

In February, Gary Ambrus is chairing a Henry Ford Museum Day on the 22nd. See the ad in this issue for details on this special curated tour for SEMPCA and watch for more information via e-mail. I hope you are able to make this special event.

We have a robust calendar of events in store for 2025 and I hope to see you at some point during the year. When your Board of Directors holds the annual planning session in

November, the goal is to define and offer a variety of events that will appeal to our members. If you would like to see something additional in our offerings, please let me or any Board Member know.

With just over 1,300 members and co-members, SEMPCA has provided a local “Porsche Club” for owners during the past 67 years. Hopefully, you find your membership to be rewarding and that you have cultivated new friends and experienced memorable adventures and events with us. A heartfelt “Thanks” to all members that assist with the numerous SEMPCA events, without your interest and support we couldn’t accomplish all we do. ■



The Tire Rack® Street Survival School Class of 2024 at M1 Concourse



SPONSORED EVENT

Porsche Club Day at The Henry Ford Museum

Saturday.....February 22, 2025

9:30 am at museum main entrance



Group rate available to purchase tickets for admission & Ford Factory Tour.....or use your annual membership to attend

Special Guided Tour of the Automotive & Racing Exhibits by Curator of Transportation....Matt Anderson

**Tours at 10am & 11am.....limited to 16 guests/tour
\$5/person additional above museum fees**

Two on site restaurants available for lunch.



**For further information watch for email blasts, FaceBook post, or
<https://clubregistration.net/events/signUp.cfm/event/15450>**

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SPONSORED EVENT

Sim Racing and Social Event

Saturday, March 15th, 2025



Join us for a fun filled social event at SUPERLAP. Prominently located on historic Woodward Ave., SUPERLAP features 8 high-end racing simulators complete with 4-point motion systems. First-timers, as well as aspiring professionals will enjoy a spin in iRacing on the advanced simulators. Event starts at 5:00PM with dinner provided.

Limited to 24 Driving Participants and 16 Spectators.

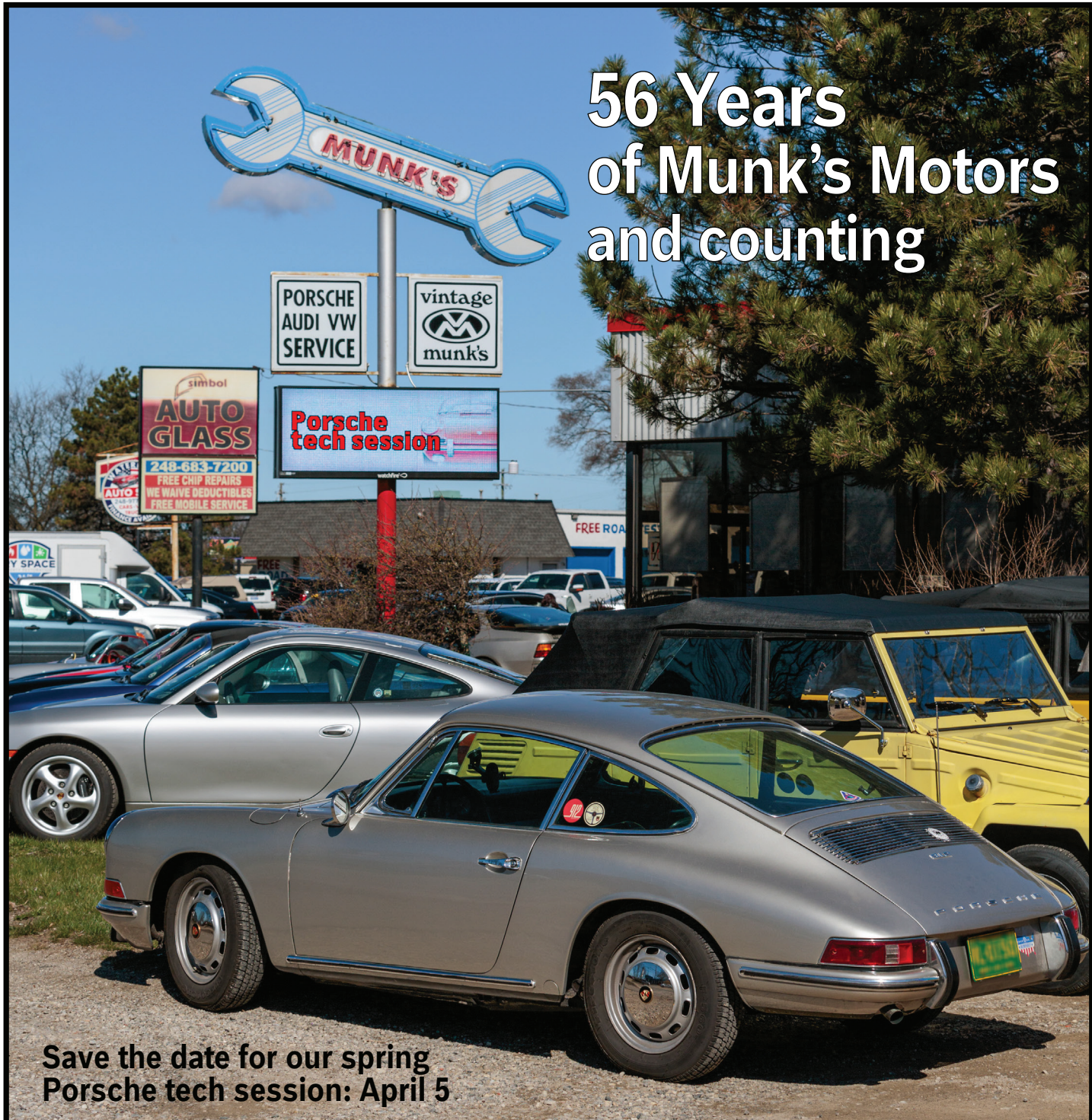
Cancellation deadline for full refund is 03/01/25

Please visit the link below for more information.



For additional question, please contact:

- Chris Bohr (248-986-8834 / Chris@sem.pca.org)



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Save the date for our spring
Porsche tech session: April 5



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SPONSORED EVENT

Join us for a...

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April 5th, 10 am to 3 pm

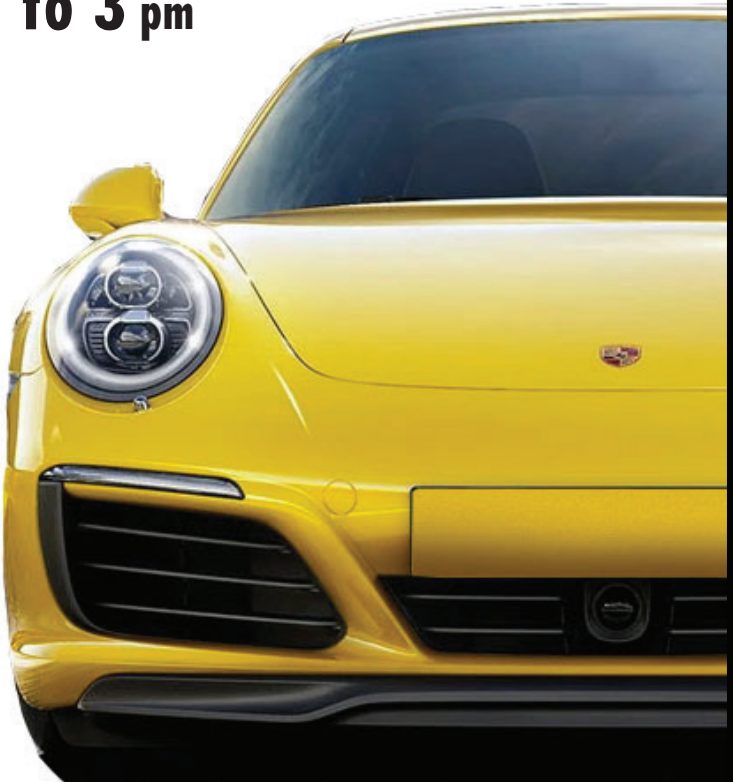
Topics will include excessive
looseness in steering/
suspension, and more!

All Porsche enthusiasts
are welcome regardless
of model or club affiliation.

As always, lunch will be
provided.

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ARTICLE BY CHRIS BOHR - VICE PRESIDENT / DRIVING TOUR CHAIR

PHOTOS BY CHRIS BOHR, HOWARD GILSON AND LEAH BENNETT

Fall Color Tour

For the 2024 Fall Color Tour we tried something different. We usually have a two segment drive with a cider and donut stop in the middle and a dinner at the end. This year we decided to have the cider and donuts at our start location with a single segment drive and a dinner stop at the end. The attendance this year was a total of 62 Cars and 115 People.

The start location this year was in Wixom at RM Motorsports. They specialize in race prep, track support, complete car restorations, engineering to final build and vintage carting services. Once stepping foot inside RM Motorsports we were greeted with a very nice car collection. There was a wide variety to look at from classic to modern road and race cars. The weather was unexpectedly nice as it was 70F and sunny in the middle of October! Everyone attending enjoyed the atmosphere and conversation as people congregated inside the building and out in the parking lot. We were onsite for two hours, however since there was so much to look at and people to talk to it felt like we were there for only a few minutes.

The fall colors this year were rather late. Our first car out was at 4 PM in the afternoon. This allowed for the late afternoon sun to hit the few colors we did have just right to really make them pop. Even though most of the trees were green and yellow, there were still some oranges and reds scattered about. The single segment route this year departed from Wixom up to Commerce, over to Milford and by the GM Proving grounds, down around Whitmore Lake and back over to Northville. The route was 55 miles long and took roughly 1.5 hours to complete. We were able to take in as many wooded and lakeside roads as possible. Dinner was at Bravo! Italian Kitchen and it was a full house with a nice atmosphere. The food was a bit delayed, but everyone enjoyed themselves.

Thank you to Tony and RM Motorsports for hosting along with all who attended and assisted. A special thank you to our drive leads Chris Bohr, Howard Gilson, Kyle Robie, Mark Vander Eyk and Jim Williams. I look forward to planning our 2025 tour events and seeing everyone again soon! ■



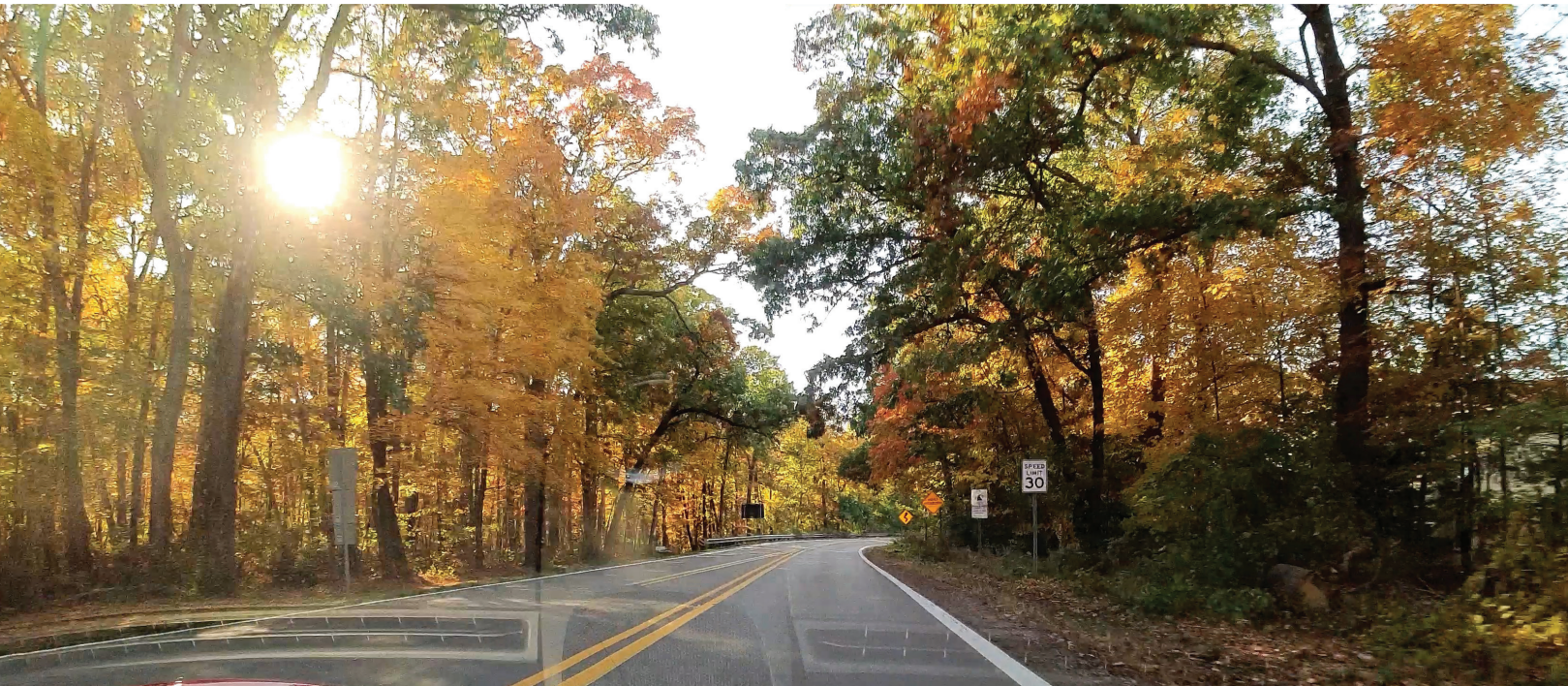
62 vehicles gathered at RM Motorsports in Wixom for the Fall Color Tour.

Fall Color Tour (continued)



There was a wide variety of race cars, road cars and vehicles undergoing restoration on display at RM Motorsports.





Although fall colors were late this year, there were still a nice variety of red, yellow and orange trees on display.



We had a full house for dinner at Bravo! Italian Kitchen.



SPONSORED EVENT

PCA Multi-Region Swap Meet, Car Show & Tech Quiz!!

Saturday, April 26, 2025
10:00 am – 2:00 pm



Presented by the

SEM,RSR and Motorstadt Regions

Featuring the 356 Motor Cities Group

Western Michigan, Michiana & Maumee Valley Regions are also invited

Hosted by Nikolas Motorsports
45108 Woodward Ave., Pontiac, MI 48341
(Across from M1 Concourse)

This event is rain or shine (or even snow)...It's inside

For tables contact Michael Acho

Michael.acho@LFG.com or 248-933-4339

Set-up for swap participants begins at 9:00 am.
The event opens at 10:00 am and runs through lunch
(lunch provided by Nikolas Motorsports)



ARTICLE BY TOM FIELITZ - SEM MEMBER

Haptics

Haptics is the study and application of perceptions of usage of products and user interfaces. It involves the appearance, feel, feedback and even the sounds produced that convey effectiveness, efficiency and even quality. Not surprisingly this has everything to do with our automobiles. Just think of all the touch points in our Porsches or any other automobile we use. What we perceive of as value and quality has everything to do with the haptic elements that are embedded in automotive design of every switch, knob, rocker switch, and other controls from door handle to pedals. Considering how sophisticated cars have become and how many features and user interfaces have evolved, the role of haptics has grown exponentially. Every gage and display has to consider the driver interface that is needed. Every feedback of input has to be evaluated for not only ease of use, but functionality and effectiveness. It has to minimize distraction and become almost intuitive to the driver. It has to feed back a positive result that an action has been taken either through tactile feel, a distinctive noise or perhaps an indicator light or symbol. Haptics can also include labels, distractions or even warning messages required by law. When it is done right it imparts a sense of quality and desirability. A simple thing like the sound and feel of a door closing can intimate that feeling of quality. The resistance of the door seals can imply that the car is soundly constructed. Yet we often don't consider that these are subject to choices in engineering and construction. The success of a car's haptics can often decide the reputation of a car as having high quality and sound engineering.

We can begin with door design since that is the first haptic experience when we approach the car and the last as we leave it. The first touch is the door release and whether it is a button, a trigger or the entire handle, all have been options over the generations. The very latest approach is an electronic button. Whatever is fitted should have a solid,

but smooth touch and preferably be acknowledged with a sound with feedback that a mechanism has been affected. The door should release from the door jamb smoothly, but not swing open. The door swing motion needs to have one or two detent positions and open far enough to give full access to the interior with a reasonable distance to clear other surroundings. Scissor doors may seem sexy, but the inconvenience overcomes the fashion statement. Likewise door sills that require acrobatic contortions or doors that require a wide swing angle look sexy, but are inconvenient. The door needs to have rubber gaskets that release smoothly while they perform the function of weather protection and wind and sound insulation. Likewise they serve an important function of providing an easy closing action that secures the door in one motion. The door needs to have the feel of a hefty bank vault door without the penalty of actual bulk or weight. All of this haptic detail and we haven't even sat in the car yet.

The real design details involve driver involvement with the myriad of knobs, switches, rockers, slides, gages and now most importantly the display screens. Beginning with the door panels there are various release levers to open the door which are critical for placement, action, material and yes even color. For the driver, the placement and operation of the window controls needs to be easily reached and intuitive to operate. Will the window have an express up and down function or have a detent to overcome as well as regulating speed of action and partial action to stop and start motion? This is often accompanied by seat adjustment controls often taking the shape of a seat back and a set bottom that also can control seat height. Features such as seat heating and vibration are usually housed elsewhere. Lastly are the outside mirror controls which separate the actual mirror motion for the right and left sides. The feel and motion of all of these controls have to provide tactile feedback as they are usually performed by feel and not sight.



Haptics (continued)

The instrument themselves have an almost infinite amount of haptic design. Which operating parameters are displayed has almost as much influence as the placement. Added to that is the innovation of customizable dashboards giving the driver an almost infinite amount of parameter choices; added to which are choices of colors and back lighting. With the advent of display screens came the decisions of which functions should be managed by touch screen buttons as opposed to dash buttons, knobs and rocker switches. The haptic limitation of these screens is that they cannot provide touch or sound feedback. Many of these functions have to be performed by muscle memory rather than the distraction of having to read a display screen. If the function is very often used it actually becomes more of a dangerous distraction. Nothing is more annoying than having to navigate multiple display screens to achieve relatively minor operations. In

this case, there are haptic decisions as to what functions have priority and what can be handled by default setting or other customized drive settings. The same goes for the recent trend of long rows of rocker switches. The arrangement of these switches as well as their order and feel become critical to smooth operation as well as their feedback such as sound or lighting, especially at night. The steering wheel is its own area of haptic controls and what should and should not be located in the hub.

Added together it is easy to see how haptic design impacts the impressions of value and quality of our cars. To us it is just an overall impression, but it is truly made up of almost infinite amounts of design decisions. ■

P4

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Become More Involved in SEMPLA-P4 Newsletter

Consider apprenticing this year as the associate editor of the P4 newsletter and then transitioning to be the next editor in 2026. This is a great way to be aware of and involved in the many activities that the club has scheduled each year, plus a great chance to meet many of the club members.

Primary Duties:

- Outline the content planned for the monthly issue (i.e. event ads, articles, etc.)
- Proofread articles submitted for publication.
- Transmit articles and other necessary content to Copyrite Printing. The Copyrite Printing staff is very capable of assembling the content into the magazine format based on guidelines that have been established for the newsletter.
- Review the final proof of the issue and approve it prior to printing.

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my first sports car or Porsche,
races, museum visits,
car shows,
Porsche repairs or restoration,
etc.

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Tire Track Street Survival School

ARTICLE AND BY LISA AND MARC MOLZON - SEM PRESIDENT

PHOTOS BY LISA MOLZON AND STEVE CARBARY

As one of the most rewarding events we run, we look forward to the Tire Rack Street Survival School each year. This gives us the opportunity to take teens beyond the standard Driver's Education lessons and really get them involved in learning how to make good driving decisions, react quickly, become more aware and start to anticipate the actions of other drivers. Rather than hearing it from the

organizers, below are recaps of the November 9th event at M1 Concourse in Pontiac from two of the students. And a HUGE shout-out to the dozens of instructors and assistants who volunteer their time, dedicating their entire day to improve teen driving skills! And by the way, we will be doing this again in November.

(continued on page 27)



Class of 2024

Street Survival School (continued)



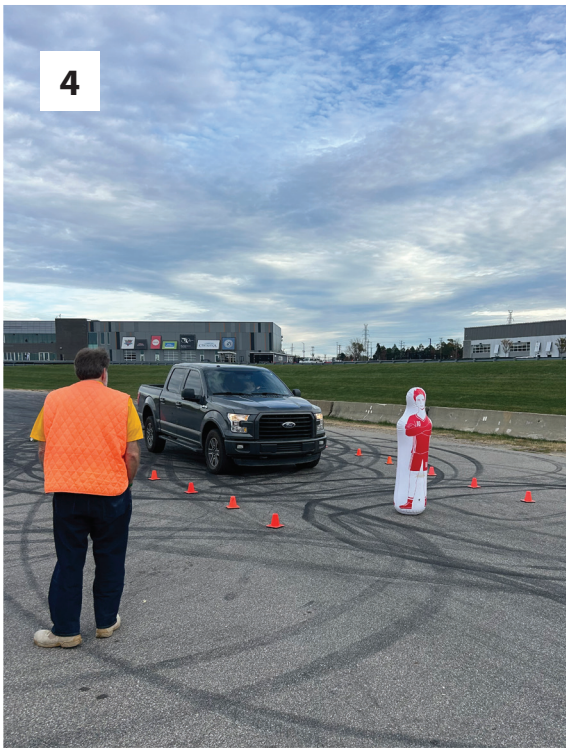
1



2



3



4

1. Students lined-up and ready to hit the courses.
2. In-car instruction
3. Practicing avoidance maneuvers
4. The braking exercise is a bit more meaningful with a "life-like" pedestrian

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 26

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- 5. Classroom Instruction was led by Andrew Olson.
- 6. Thomas Sullivan with his daughter, Claudia, at the end of a successful day
- 7. Class of 2024 with Instructors and Volunteers



Street Survival School Student Perspective
Article by Claudia Sullivan

This course was amazing for many reasons, but honestly the best part was just how much fun it was to participate in!

I enjoyed the various courses and the instructors were all very nice and supportive. My favorite course was the skid pad because it was very fast and I could feel myself pushing the limits on my car. The other courses were also exciting and very educational. In general, it gave me an idea of what kinds of moves a car could make; where my car could fit and where it would end up running a cone over; and how just the smallest inputs can make huge differences in fast-paced situations.

In the weeks since I participated in this course, I have realized just how important these kinds of lessons are when driving on the road. I live in an area where it is common for squirrels, birds, or even deer to cross the road at inopportune times and just having the internal knowledge that I would know what to do in a situation where I would need to evade them is very comforting. Rapid lane changes or get off the road changes, are practiced extensively during this course and it gives me peace of mind to know how to do these in case of emergency.

For those who believe they don't need this course because you already passed your driving test: don't kid yourself. Just because you passed Drivers Ed doesn't mean you know all about how to drive your car. Drivers Ed is the bare minimum, and when it comes down to the safety and security of yourself and those around you, I wouldn't recommend settling for the bare minimum. It is a small time commitment and a huge benefit. The roads will never be safe as long as drivers with the bare minimum of training are using them, so don't put your life on the line for nothing.

I would recommend this course to anyone who drives regularly, especially in places with variable road conditions and fast-moving traffic, which is basically everywhere. I felt very welcome at this event: surrounded by people in my age group and encouraged by instructors who are passionate about what they do and experts in driving and automotive engineering. My one critique is that not enough people know about this gem! So sign up, tell your friends and spread the word. Maybe one day they could even open up this kind of training to all eligible drivers, not just teens, because we all know some adults are just as bad at driving as we are.

Street Survival School Student Perspective
Article by Leah Nalichowski

I recently participated in Street Survival School at M1 Concourse and had an amazing experience. It not only prepared me, but educated me on the real life scenarios that could happen when driving a car. My dad signed me up a couple months prior and I assured him I didn't need the class, but after taking the class I am very glad I did. Having the resources of multiple educated and trained instructors gave me different insight and perspective, to help me understand more about my car. Each instructor had different methods and ways to help every driver, which made me feel safe while performing each exercise. Whether I was in class or doing interactive activities, I felt I was gaining so much knowledge. Throughout the day, I got to check my own tire pressure and even experience firsthand ABS taking control of my car. Some other things I learned were what understeering and oversteering is, which I got to experience and learn how to control. My favorite activity was the autocross portion of the training, which left me with more confidence on the road. Overall, I highly recommend any new driver take Street Survival School training. ■

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Membership Dinner



BY LISA MOLZON - SEM PRESIDENT

On Friday, November 15, a lively group of 30 SEM members gathered at the Alibi of Troy for “dinner and a show” in their private dining room. Upon arrival, members gathered and shared stories, met new acquaintances and caught-up with friends during the cocktail hour.

We all welcomed new members Ash Gupta and Todd Gustke with his wife Kris. Amongst the attendees, it was nice to see long-time members Bob and Marilyn Amano, Chris and Elaine Braden (of Munk’s Motors - a long-time SEM sponsor and advertiser), Thom Christen, Michael Cohen, Tom McDonald, Lucas Phan plus Vic and Barbara Skirmants.

Following dinner, we were treated to an engaging and captivating presentation by our Guest Speaker, Larry Webster. Larry is currently an author at Hagerty Media, a former Editor-in-Chief at Road & Track and an amateur

race car driver. He candidly shared an overview of his professional career that included both amusing and intriguing stories as well as his passion for cars and in particular, Porsche vehicles. Everyone enjoyed the humorous tales and I, for one, completely commiserate with anyone that has a healthy fear of heights. His passion for high-performance vehicles may only be surpassed by his amazing work ethic and willingness to go the extra mile to attain the levels he has achieved and, of course, his infectious sense of humor.

Overall we all expected a good time, but what we experienced was a truly entertaining time filled with good food and good friends!

Please watch for the next Membership Dinner in the spring of 2026. ■

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Southeast Michigan Region Porsche Club of America

2024 Board of Director
Election Results

Congratulations to the members who have
been newly elected or re-elected to the
Board of Directors
for the two year term (2025-2026)

Re-Elected
Howard Gilson
Lisa Molzon

Newly Elected
Cedric Alexanian
Robert Tarchinski



ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY HOWARD GILSON - PAST PRESIDENT

Holiday Light Tour

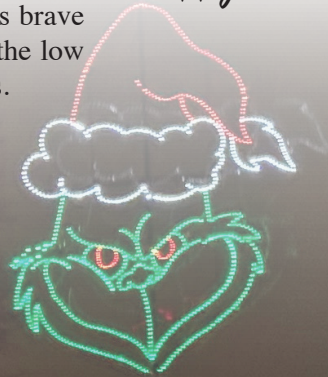
For the second year, we arranged a casual dinner at Buddy's Pizza in Livonia for members, family and friends to gather prior to the Holiday Lights Tour. Everyone was able to find a table and engage in conversations about many of this year's SEM sponsored events. I heard people talking about the overnight tours, the picnic/concours and their plans for next year.

After dinner, we lined up the cars in the parking lot before traveling to the beginning of the Wayne County Lightfest. We had two members bring their 911 Cabriolets and they even put the tops down for the tour. That was brave considering that the temperature that night was in the low 20's, but they had blankets and I hope seat warmers.

Once we arrived at the Lightfest, thankfully there wasn't too much traffic so we were able to enjoy the drive. Along the way there is a place to stop for hot chocolate and restrooms. A couple of members did stop for refreshments while the remainder of the group proceeded to the end of the tour.

Everyone went home happy and I hope full of joy. We plan on making this an annual activity, so if you missed out this year's event we will have another next December.

Happy Holidays. ■



1



Holiday Light Tour (continued)

2

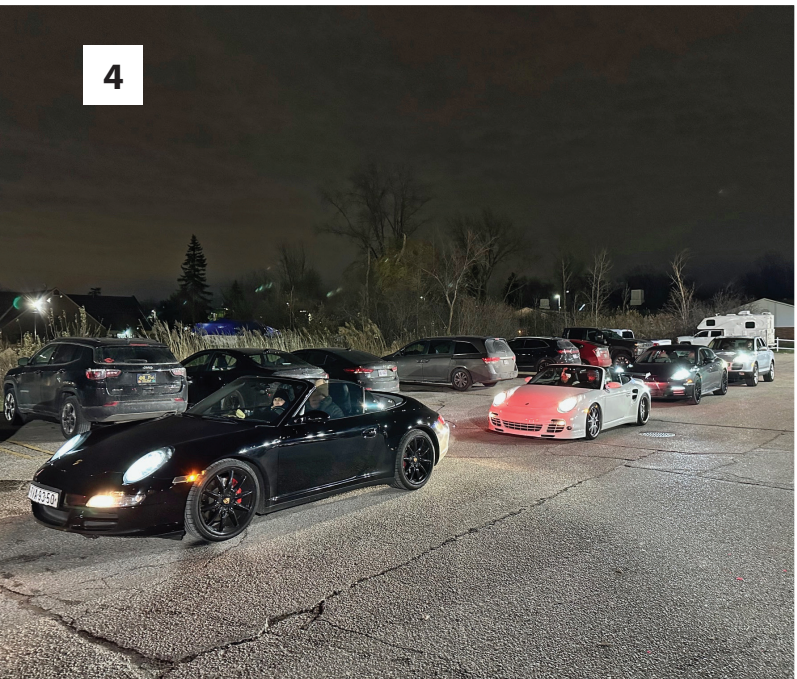


3



1. The Wayne County Lightfest.
2. Southeast Michigan PCA members bundling up for the holiday lights tour.
3. Southeast Michigan PCA members with top down in 20 degree weather.
4. Members lined up and ready for the tour.
5. The Wayne County Lightfest.

4



5





ARTICLE BY RENE AND MARK VANDER EYK - P4 EDITOR

PHOTOS BY DEB MILLER AND LISA MOLZON

This year's annual Holiday Party and Silent Charity Auction was held at Red Run Golf Club in Royal Oak on Friday December 13. Red Run has been an ideal location for this event in the past with an ample sized dining room, wonderful food and service, plus a separate spacious room to display the silent auction items. In attendance were seventy one of our loyal SEM club members plus from our charity, Maggie Gibson, CEO of the Mi Cookie Project, and her husband who were guests of our club. We were sponsored at Red Run by Addie and Dominic Mirabella, daughter and son-in-law of Rene and Mark Vander Eyk.

The Red Run facility was beautifully decorated for the holidays and there was a generous amount of space allocated for the silent auction display, bar area and dining room. The festivities began at 6 PM with a social hour and

the silent charity auction. The silent auction was organized by Patti Door and some of the SEM members assisted her with the set-up. Assorted appetizers were served by the Red Run staff and guests sipped their favorite holiday cheer while perusing and bidding on the silent auction donations. The silent auction raised over \$1000 for our club charity, the Mi Cookie Project Special Athletes. Thank you to those members that donated to the silent auction and also to the members that purchased some Porsche related items to benefit the club's charity.

Dinner began with a freshly tossed salad followed by delicious entrée selections of chicken piccata, filet of salmon, filet of beef or vegetarian fare. An ice cream sundae was served for dessert. The food and service were excellent.



SEM Holiday Party

SEM Holiday Party (continued)



After dinner, there was a brief program led by SEM President Howard Gilson. He asked past SEM Presidents and the current Board of Directors to stand and be recognized. Howard then reviewed each of the 2024 SEM activities and thanked the Event Chairs for their support. Then Lisa Molzon-Membership Chair, Walter Crump-Past President, Jim Williams-Treasurer and Fred Young-Concours Chair were honored for their contributions to SEMPCA and presented with recognition trophies from Porsche Clubs Worldwide. Then it was announced that Lisa Molzon would be the new incoming SEM President and Chris Bohr the incoming Vice-President.

Lastly, Howard revealed the SEM past President's selection for the 2024 Jack Kaminska Enthusiast of the Year Award. This year's recipient of the award was Tom Fielitz. Tom is a long time SEM member that has been very supportive of the HPDE and Street Survival School programs, plus a significant contributor of articles to the P4 newsletter.

Overall it was a very elegant and enjoyable evening, please join us for next year's Holiday Party and Silent Charity Auction again at Red Run Golf Club on Saturday December 13, 2025. Special thanks to Patti Door, Howard Gilson, Chris Bohr plus Jim and Laurie Williams for their assistance making this another great SEMPCA event. ■



1. Don Jones, Wally Abdal, Taffy Jones, Chris Bohr, Kathy Abdal, Sabrina Crump, Walt Crump
2. Laurie and Treasurer Jim Williams with the 2024 PCA Recognition Award.
3. Past President Walt Crump with the 2024 PCA Recognition Award
4. Secretary Fred Young with 2024 PCA Recognition Award.

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 34



5. A selection of the Silent Auction items
6. One of the many sought-out Silent Auction items - a 356B model
7. Enjoying dinner at Red Run Golf Club



8. Incoming SEM President and 2024 PCA Recognition Award recipient Lisa Molzon with Chief Driving Instructor Marc Molzon
9. Incoming SEM Vice President and Driving Tour Chair Chris Bohr
10. Joe and Maggie Gibson - Mi Cookie Project





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ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY HOWARD GILSON - PAST PRESIDENT

Enthusiast of the Year

As I thought about who should be nominated for SEM Enthusiast of the Year one name kept popping up in my head, Tom Fielitz. I wanted to recognize someone that hasn't received the award in the past. I called last year's winner, Chris Bohr, to confirm that Tom had not been selected in the past. Chris confirmed that Tom's name wasn't on the clock trophy that has everyone's name listed that has won the Enthusiast of the Year award since 1972. Lastly, the past Presidents get together and discuss nominees for the award and everyone agreed that Tom definitely deserved the award.

So, the Enthusiast of the Year for 2024 is Tom Fielitz. Tom has been a member of the Southeast Michigan PCA since 1972 and has done a lot for the club over those years. He has been a HPDE driving instructor for as long as I can remember. Tom was even my instructor a few time over the years. He has also been an instructor for the Street Survival School training the club hosts for teen drivers every year. He has also written numerous articles for the P4 ranging from driving tips, to great roads to travel and even some tech tips for those who want to tinker with their Porsches. One of the great memories I have of Tom is when the

HPDE program required every instructor to get a tech inspection of their vehicle at least once a year. He brought in his vintage 911 for an inspection. I found that Tom's 911 was missing some important suspension bolts in the rear and one of the sway bar links was missing along with the camber eccentric bolt. I replaced all the missing parts and after an alignment, the car drove fantastically. When Tom came to pick up his 911, I told him that he must be a great driver based on how well he could drive his 911 with all the missing alignment parts.

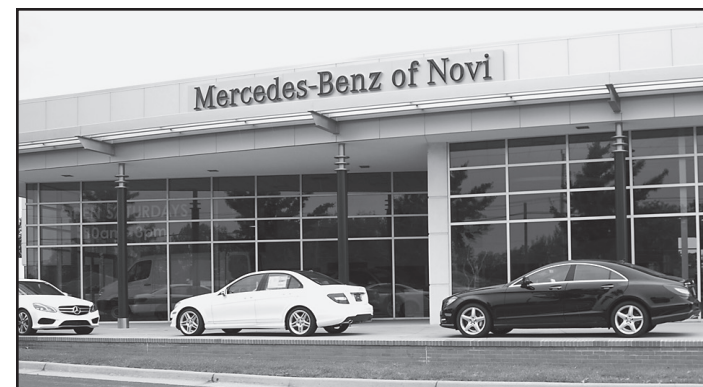
Tom has always been in the background, helping where he could and never asking for any recognition. This is what it's like to volunteer for the Porsche Club of America. The saying is "It's not just the cars, it's the people" and this is very apparent when volunteering for an organization that also has the slogan "Fueled by Volunteers". The club cannot exist without people volunteering in the background, this is one of the things I love about the Southeast Michigan PCA and the people in the background.

Congratulations to Tom Fielitz, the 2024 SEM Enthusiast of the Year. ■



Tom Fielitz accepting Enthusiast of the Year Award from Howard Gilson

ARTICLE BY LEO WANSTREET - SEM MEMBER



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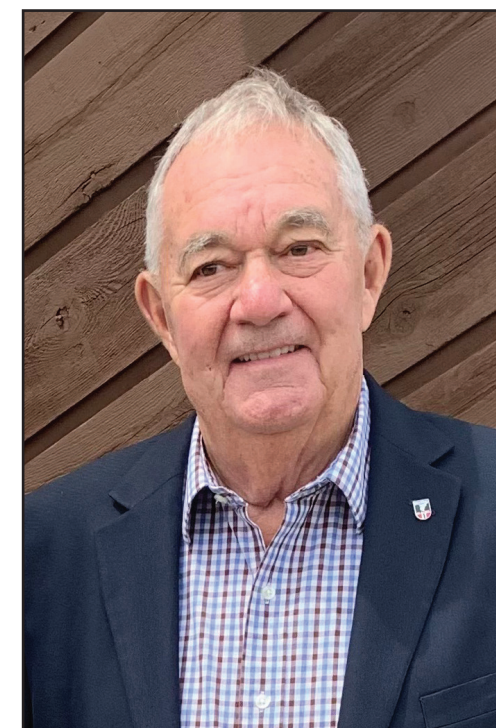


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Porsche Club of America. It's The People, right? Well, we recently lost a good one with the passing of long-time SEM member Tom Walton on October 8th.

Tom grew up in Michigan and he had an interesting life. From going to school at Cranbrook as a young man, to successful oil speculation in Texas and bird hunting all over the United States and South America. You know you are travelling to exotic places when your hunting trip gets diverted due to a military coup. He married Linda, the love of his life 60 years ago. They met on a blind date, and on their second date Tom informed her that he intended to marry her. She thought he was nuts. Many of the Porsche cars Tom bought were really for Linda, as an expression of his love for her.

Like many of us, Tom was a car guy early in life. His automotive resume includes Mustangs and Corvettes and even a Lincoln Town Car with Police Interceptor underpinnings, and the whitest Rolls Royce Silver Shadow that ever rolled in Oakland County. Hitting a well in Texas led to an opportunity for self-reward and that materialized as a new Porsche 944. After that initial exposure to Porsche cars and an appreciation for the engineering that goes into these vehicles, Tom was hooked. Tom and Linda joined the Porsche Club in 1996, at about the time they acquired a 993 4S. Possibly the first Boxster S delivered in Michigan followed and Tom loved to drive that car all around Elk Rapids. But Tom's favorite car was his "little car", a Polo Red 1969 Porsche 912 which he acquired from Chuck Stoddard's personal collection. As the story goes, Tom fell in love with the car on an informal SEM trip to Chuck's garage and he pursued its acquisition for a couple years with everything from Christmas cards to Valentines, flowers and chocolates until Chuck agreed to sell it to him.



I first had an opportunity to spend time with Tom when SEM was hosting the annual "Roar On The Shore" Porsche Club Race at GingerMan Raceway. Within a minute of engaging in your first conversation with Tom, you would believe you had known him for years. I always enjoyed Tom's conversational energy and enthusiasm as he would speak expertly on any number of topics from automobiles to metallurgy to shotguns.

Tom loved the Porsche Club Racing scene. The built cars, the noise and the smells. And, as it turned out, Red Bull energy drinks. He could be seen in an orange vest with a walkie talkie and a Red Bull helping to make things happen. But he didn't actually drive the track. The closest thing to that might have been when Tom and Linda did the Tail of the Dragon. Should you not be familiar

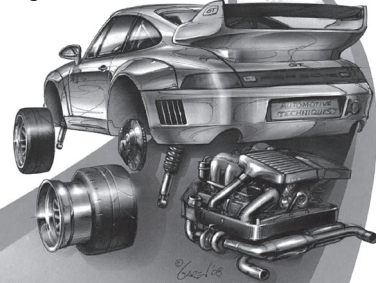
with the Dragon, it is an awesome stretch of road in the Great Smokey Mountains with 318 turns over 11 miles. It is a destination, a mecca of sorts for crotch rockets, Harleys and all manner of sports and performance cars capable of handling the tight turns at speed. But when Tom drove the Tail of the Dragon, he did it in a motorhome – not at speed. He was not a popular guy that day! For the record, it was not intentional. You might be familiar with how easy it can be to find yourself in the wrong place with an RV and Tom's legendary drive started just that way. It was hilarious to hear him tell the story.

Tom was one of The People. He made going to a PCA event even more enjoyable. He loved his family, his cars and life and he was happy to tell you all about it. We loved his stories and those of us fortunate to know him are going to miss all of that. Rest in peace Porsche Friend. ■

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Materials for 25- to 60-year anniversaries are mailed **quarterly** depending on your anniversary date. Members celebrating these anniversaries will receive the following:

- 25 years - Letter, Decal, Certificate, Pin
- 30 and 35 years - Letter, Decal, Certificate
- 40 and 45 years - Letter, Decal, Certificate, Name Badge
- 50, 55 and 60 years- Letter, Decal, Certificate, Pin and Name Badge

If you have not received your anniversary recognition from Porsche Club of America, please send an email to anniversary@pca.org requesting your materials and be sure to include your membership number and full name.

Welcome New Members:

Tim Baughman
Gary Bayrakdarian
Tyler Britcher
David Diegel
Peter Divito
Christopher Frank

Miljan Jevremovic
Jeffrey King
Alexander Kleyman
Lance Liden (Transfer)
Hari Nandagopal
Anirudh Penumetcha
Stauart Rowley

Ami Schwarcz
Ryan Siebert
Gjoni Sinishta
Andre Stelczyk
Dean Tanner (Transfer)
Walter Yourke

SEM/PCA Member Anniversaries

JANUARY 2025

YR	Name(s)	YR	Name(s)	YR	Name(s)	YR	Name(s)
56	Ronald & Karen Roland	9	Richard Cieszkowski Jr.	2	Jeff Zauberman & Daniel Warsh	12	Roger & Katie Meiners
42	Tom Gasser	9	Gianluigi & Christina Gennari			10	Keith Koscak
41	Douglas Marston	9	Gary Kogowski	1	Dante & Elizabeth Bellario	9	Roy Kethe
35	John & Rebecca Denyer	9	James & JT Mestdagh	1	Michael Day	8	Patrick Allen & William Wolff
32	Leo Wanstreet & Dawn Martindale	8	Russell & Tammy Lynn Polena	1	Daniel Flaggman & Maria Wolff	8	Dan Chandler
28	Robert & Peggy Bogart	8	George Shade			8	Charles & Carolynn Etterman
28	Brian & Patricia Sedik	7	Ronald & Edward Guerrieri	1	Tiberio Frisoli	7	Francesco Maria Fenici
27	Merritt Collins & Vaughan Scott	7	Christopher & Anne Hager	1	Kenneth Gray	7	Keith & Sharon Koerber
		7	Chip & Lindsay Lydy	1	Robert Korwin	6	Charles Bracken
25	Terrence & Anne Gallagher	6	Kenneth & Tiffany Bassey	1	Derek & Suzanne Thomas	6	Yves Hart
25	David Salisbury	6	Lance & Catherine Liden			6	Kelly & John Shoemake
24	Joseph & Veronica Jakubus	6	Aaron Link			6	Robert & Nita Tarchinski
23	Edward & Debbie Reiss	6	Chris Loewe	48	Mark & Jeff Langren	5	Jack & Marsha Beckman
23	Fred & Patricia Tarver	6	David Yanez	38	Scott & Kim Elliott	5	Mike Swanson
22	G. Michael & Christina Kabot	5	Christopher & Kyle Bohr	35	Raymond & Jo Ann G. Johnson	4	John Chalifoux
21	James & Gail Seeling	5	Andrea Di Buduo	34	Tibor & Edith Szabo	4	Mark Fox & Pam Skandalaris
20	Michael & Diana Eblenkamp	5	Martin & Susan Ender	33	David & Debra Miller	3	Ben Bator
18	Todd & Cathleen Candey	5	Peter & Claudia Oberhaus	28	Ben Salvador & Myrna Mendez	3	John Below
17	Robert Doyle	5	Stephen Petryna			3	Charlie & Denise Cook
17	Garen & Lilana Nicoghosian	4	Ronald Leix	26	Patrick Coleman	3	Therese & David Livermore
17	Francesca Zonca & Crippa Paolo	4	Dietrich & Marianna Sneideraitis	25	Tony & Christina Amalio	3	Aris Polymeneas
16	Nathan & Douglas Richeson	3	Neil & Mark Alperin	25	Clifton & Marti Patton	2	James Babcock
15	Steven & Diane Ault	3	Jack Barbat	25	Mark & Elizabeth Peters	2	David Clark
15	William & Donna Pankratz	3	Krassimir Denchev	23	Frank & Elizabeth Tilli	2	Michael Coburn
14	Carlos & Veronica Carmona	3	Brian Ellison	22	Christian & Lisa Thiele	2	Nawaf Kalasho
14	Richard McClelland & Susan Budrys	3	John & Nora Grabowski	20	Mack & Marilyn Gaut	2	Frank Klose
12	Chris Young	3	David Klauzenberg	18	Chris & Elaine Braden	2	Donald & Helen Munoz
11	Eliseo Carrillo	3	Matthew & Catherine Renner	17	William & Laurie Blessed	2	Ken & Kathleen VanHooser
11	Andrei Duma	3	Graham Williams	17	Alan & Aaron Wagner	1	Adam Einck
11	Randall & Caroline Seidel	2	Nobu & Marie Asai	16	Ahmet Ongun & Haluk Unsal	1	Joel & Kim Robbins
10	Steve Shepherd	2	Tsuyoshi Kurosawa	14	John Crusse	1	Jeffrey Senser
		2	Jeffrey Scott	14	Lucas Phan & Glenn Tjahjadi		
		2	Andrew Sutton	12	John & Traci Garippa		
				12	Apostolos & Elena Kerasiotis		

SEM Business Meeting Minutes* for 11/07/24 & 12/05/24) by Fred Young

NOVEMBER 2, 2023

In attendance: Board Members: Howard Gilson, Fred Young, Chris Bohr, Jim Williams, Marc Molzon, Lisa Molzon, Walter Crump and Steve Carbary. Officer: Mark VanderEyck. Absent with notice: Lucas Phan. Guests: Michael Cohen, Michael Acho, Merritt Scott Collins & Bobby Tarchinski.

Call to Order: 7:50 p.m. by President Howard Gilson.
Agenda Approval: Moved by L.M. and W.C. to approve the agenda. Motion passed.
Minutes: Moved by J.W. and L.M. to approve the October minutes. Motion passed.

Financial: Jim Williams - Jim went over the October financials. He also informed the board of an alternate site for event registration. It was moved by J.W. and M.M. to approve the October financial report. Motion passed.

Membership: Lisa Molzon - Membership is holding steady. Name badges are in.
Insurance: Steve Carbary - Good for Street Survival and needed for the Holiday Light Festival.

P-4: Mark VanderEyck - He went over the upcoming January/February P4 content. It was moved by W.C. and L.M. to adopt a proportional rate hike for P4 advertisers. Motion passed.
Webmaster: Howard Gilson - The November P4 is on the website along with the Ohio Hocking Hills Tour.

OLD BUSINESS:

October 3-6: American Speed Festival: Lisa Molzon - 30 to 40 Porsches were on display for the Sunday event
October 4-6: Fall Up North Tour: Chris Bohr - It went really well with 24 people and 16 cars. The weather and routes were excellent.
October 19: Fall Color Tour: Chris Bohr - 115 people with 70 cars participated. The restaurant service was a little slow, but all in all it was a good event.
November 9: Street Survival School: Marc Molzon - Looks good. The event is fully signed up with plenty of coaches and volunteers.
November 15: Membership Dinner: Lisa Molzon - 30 signed up and in good shape.
December 6: Holiday Lights Tour: Howard Gilson - All set. An E-blast will be sent out.
December 13: Holiday Party: Mark VanderEyck - Everything is in place. An E-mail reminder will also be sent out.
February 22: Ford Museum Tour: Gary Ambrus - Still in planning stage
Election Results: Howard Gilson - Cedric Alexanian, Howard Gilson, Lisa Molzon and Robert Tarchinski were elected to two year terms on the Board of Directors.
By Email on October 10th it was moved by L.M. and F.Y. to give a deposit to the Henry Ford Museum for 24 people for an archives tour. Motion passed. *The archive tour has since been canceled.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Enthusiast of the Year: It was moved by L.M. and W.C. to purchase a clock for the enthusiast of the year. Motion passed.
It was moved by M.M. and S.C. to purchase a gift card for Karen at Copyrite for the great job she is doing. Motion passed.
It was moved by M.M. and J.W. to approve the budget for 2025 Concours Trophies. Motion passed.
Event Reports: Fred Young - Needed for the Fall Color Tour
Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 p.m. - Moved to adjourn by M.M. and C.B. Motion passed.
Next Meeting Location: Howard Gilson’s - Thursday, December 5, 2024

Respectfully Submitted: Fred Young - 11-11-24
*Subject to ratification at the next Board Meeting.

DECEMBER 7, 2023

In attendance: Board Members: Howard Gilson, Fred Young, Chris Bohr, Jim Williams, Marc Molzon, Lisa Molzon, and Steve Carbary. Absent with notice: Lucas Phan, Walter Crump and Mark VanderEyck. Guest: Michael Acho

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. by President Howard Gilson.
Agenda Approval: Moved by L.M. and J.W. to approve the agenda. Motion passed.
Minutes: Moved by J.W. and M.M. to approve the November minutes. Motion passed.
Financial: Jim Williams - Jim went over the November financials. It was moved by C.B. and M.M. to approve the November financial report. Motion passed.
Membership: Lisa Molzon - Membership is at 852 primary and 462 associates for a total of 1314 members.
Insurance: Steve Carbary - In place for the Holiday Lights Tour.
P-4: Mark VanderEyck - He sent out a list of articles needed for the January/February P4.
Webmaster: Howard Gilson - Everything is OK.

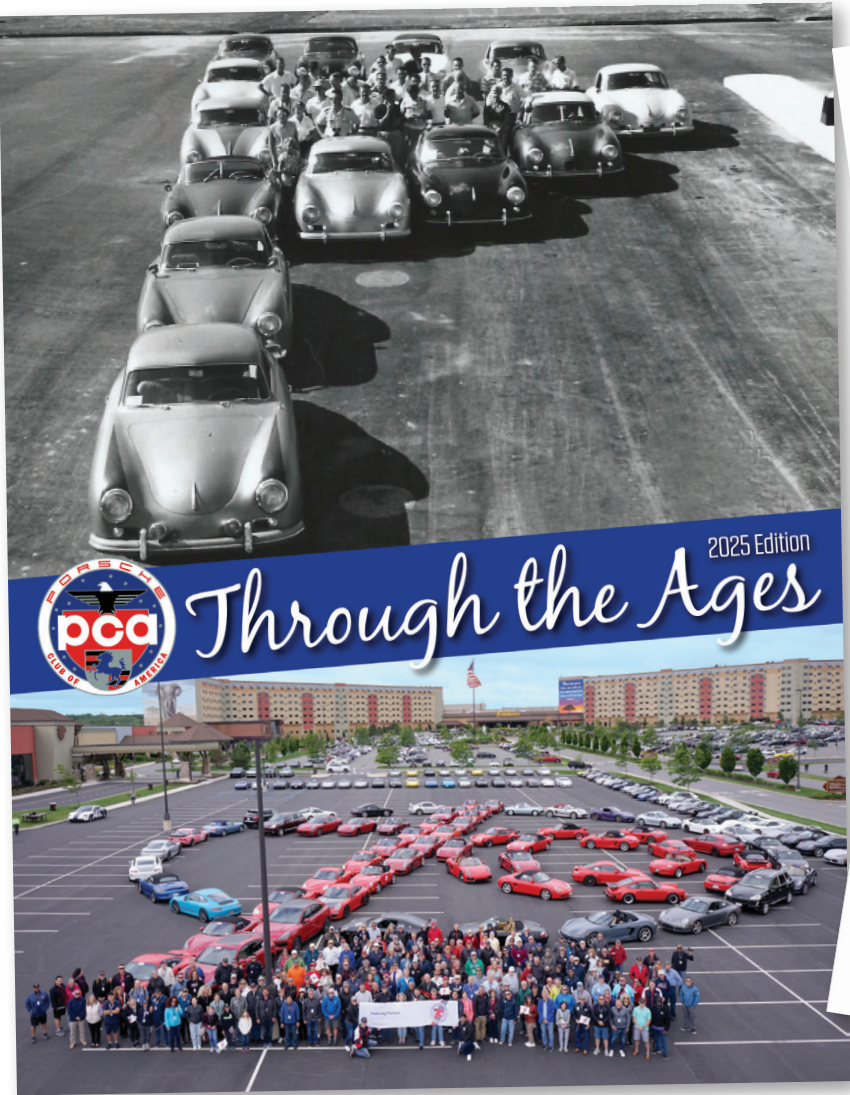
OLD BUSINESS:

November 9: Street Survival School: Marc Molzon - The sell-out event went great with plenty of help. The SEM Region has one of the best run programs. It was moved by L.M. and S.C. to donate one-half of the proceeds back to Street Survival. Motion passed.
November 15: Membership Dinner: Lisa Molzon - The dinner went extremely well with a delicious meal and Larry Webster as our entertaining guest speaker.
December 6: Holiday Lights Tour: Howard Gilson - Reservations are made for 35 people at Buddy’s Pizza with the tour to follow.
December 13: Holiday Party: Mark VanderEyck - Eighty people are signed up.
February 22: Ford Museum Tour: Gary Ambrus - An ad is to be placed in the P4 with details.
March ??: SIM Racing Event: Chris Bohr - He is checking in on a possible March event involving SIM Racing.
April 5: Munk’s Tech Session: An ad is needed for the P4.
May 10: Spring Tour: Chris Bohr - No information as of yet.
May 17 or 18: 3D Detailing Session: Howard Gilson - Will check for details.
TBD: DE-101: Marc Molzon - No date yet.
Track Rabbit Registration Site: The consensus was to stay with Club Registration.

NEW BUSINESS:

Event Reports: Fred Young - None needed
Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 p.m. - Moved to adjourn by J.W. and M.M. Motion passed.
Next Meeting Location: Howard Gilson’s - Thursday, January 9, 2025

Respectfully Submitted: Fred Young - 12-9-24
*Subject to ratification at the next Board Meeting.



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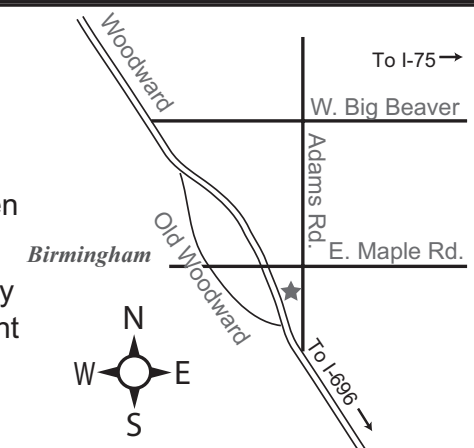
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