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THE CHICAGO SCENE

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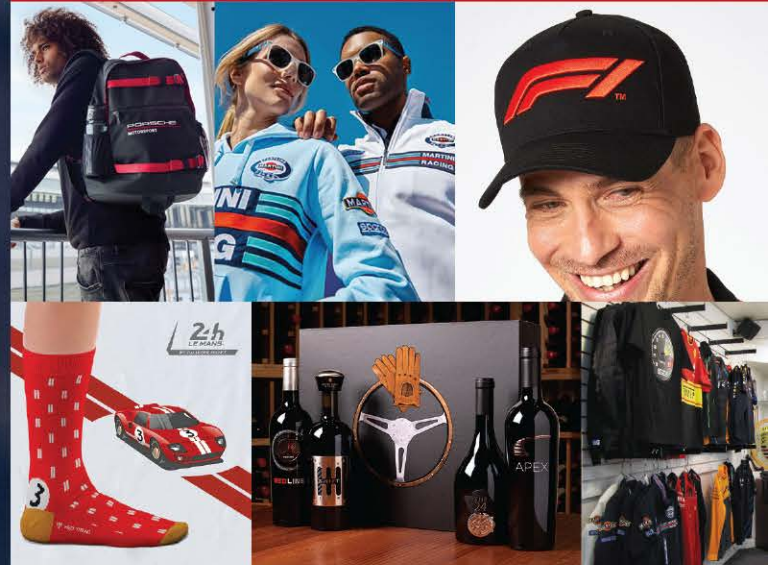
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Cover: TRAC by Michael Bene

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Neil MacDonald – fmacdona@aol.com • 312-961-3268

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pca.chicago.mbrship@gmail.com

THE CHICAGO SCENE

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Editor

Neil MacDonald

Contributing Writers

Michael Bene	Sharon Olson
Dana Comolli	Steve Olson
Eliot Dam	Henrique Regina
Cliff Horn	Robert Safe
Adam Hurlburt	Stanley Sangdahl

Contributing Photographers

Michael Bene	Steven Garcia
Jeff Brown	Adam Kern
Doystermedia	Neil MacDonald
Max Flareman	Robert Safe

Art Direction, Design & Production

Fred Huetter, *Graphic Solutions Inc.-chgo*, www.graphsol.com

Printing

Ed Soske, *Presstech*, www.presstechus.com

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Can We Love Our Car?

We can all profess to love many things: our spouse, our parents, chocolate, art, etc. Can you love your car? If so, what do you love about your car? Is it the freedom to travel where and when you want? Is it the exhilaration of accelerating, turning, and yes, even stopping? Can it be the beautiful shape of the body or the appreciation of the mechanical design? Do you love the symphony played by the exhaust or the wonderment of the thousands of parts working together to propel you along the highway? Do you have a name for your car? If so, then you probably love it.

While the success of the Porsche Club of America is likely a reflection of that love we feel for our cars, that was not the primary case originally. One of the main reasons for the initiative behind the formation of the PCA was to find like-minded owners who could share their experiences in the driving and repair of these strange new vehicles. Yes, back then breakdowns were a little more common than the bullet reliability we enjoy today. One could only imagine a new Porsche owner in early 1950s America asking the local mechanic to fix a problem with their car. After scratching his head a little, the mechanic likely went to open the trunk lid in front to have a look at the engine, only to find it missing. Back then there was no nationwide dealer network with factory trained mechanics.

I didn't get to drive a Porsche until later in life. A couple of minutes behind the wheel and I was asking myself why I took so long, and now I understand what everyone was talking about. Not only did I love the Cayman that was our first Porsche, I loved the brand. Every Porsche I have driven since then, whether it is a sports car, SUV, or sedan, evokes the same emotional response. The automobile connects me to the road like no other machine I have encountered. I don't think Porsche has made a vehicle that I wouldn't love.

Stanley Sangdahl
President, Chicago Region



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Revving Up the Engine of Generosity: Unleashing PCA-C's Spirit of Volunteering

by Cliff Horn

Most Club members know me either as the guy in Tech with the blue overalls, or the guy with the wide 914 with a really big wing, usually with me laying under it. I've been an active Club member for 24 years both as a driver and as a Tech member, but I've never jumped into the administration of PCA-Chicago. When the previous Road America Assistant Event Co-Chair, Dave Mansfield, elected to step down, I felt honored—even obligated!—to take on the responsibility.



photo: Neil MacDonald



continued



Naturally, I jumped in headfirst, not knowing quite what I was in for. I worked the scales with the Tech team and assisted the scrutineers from PCA-National. In between, I filled many coolers, repeatedly, using more than 200 pounds of ice; helped out in Registration; manned the Black Flag Station; and gathered/distributed provisions for the corner worker, volunteer, and Club Race Happy Hours. I did all that, and still felt like I'd done nothing. What I

immediately learned, firsthand, is it takes an army to successfully pull off each of the Road America events: Drivers Ed in the spring and a combined HPDE and Club Race in the fall. As a result, I want to specifically give a shout out to all of you volunteers. You make these events happen, and without you, there would not be any events. More specifically,

- Cheryl Lehman Collier: thank you for being the Chairperson for the Club's two Road America events. What a load you put on yourself, and we appreciate you for it;



- the core team of Glenn DeWeirdt, Stanley Sangdahl, Mark Prescott, Jody Freund, Dr. Joe Losurdo, John Ruther, Ross Conforti, Dana Comolli, Todd Conforti;
- George Schaefer III and Andy Skura who spent the entire weekend in the tower assisting the National staff;
- those special volunteers who paved the way before us, including Keith Clark, Chuck LaMantia, and Pete Hackenson, all of whom deserve and earned a special shout-out; and

continued



photo: Michael Bene

photo: Neil MacDonald



photo: Michael Bene



work behind the scenes coordinating logistics or managing the tech inspection process.



- all the others, for whom I don't have room to mention. Thank you all.

Volunteering at PCA-Chicago's Road America events isn't just about witnessing Porsches up close. In fact, you who volunteer are an essential part of the Club's event engine. Volunteers take on an entire gamut of roles, from assisting with registration and guiding attendees to managing the paddock area. Others handle the crucial task of track marshaling, which ensures the safety of both drivers and spectators. Still others

To all of you, your generosity and willingness to volunteer goes far beyond the thrill of the track. It's about camaraderie, the shared passion for Porsche, and the fulfillment derived from giving back to the Club the enthusiasm and commitment that keeps this Club running. Your knowledge and love for the marque shine through your engagement with event participants and attendees, sharing the stories and expertise that enrich our overall experience. Please join me in dipping our toes into the volunteering water: we all will get a lot more satisfaction out of our Club if you do. 🍷



photo: Michael Bene



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Concours 3: Elkhart Lake

by Henrique Regina



The picturesque town of Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, once again played host to PCA-Chicago's Concours 3 on September 2. This final Concours event of the year left attendees and participants basking in automotive glory. The Osthoff Resort provided a stunning backdrop, its lawns near the lake setting the stage for a day of classic and modern Porsche excellence.



photo: Adam Kern



photo: Adam Kern

Mother Nature smiled upon the event, offering perfect weather, enhancing the overall experience. Sixteen passionate Porsche owners showcased their prized possessions, with four hailing from the local Wisconsin regions, adding a touch of homegrown charm to the proceedings.

In the very competitive Touring/Grand Touring class, John Moore emerged victorious by just one tenth of a point, proudly displaying his beautiful 1971 911E Targa. Meanwhile,

continued



photo: Adam Kern

Concours 3 continued

David Mangano claimed the Show class crown with his pristine 2000 Boxster S, a testament to Porsche's mid-engine sports car.

In the Exhibition class, the spotlight shone on Adam Kern, who took first place with his 2000 911 Carrera. Each winner exemplified the dedication and passion that defines the Porsche community, making the PCA-Chicago Concours 3 a memorable celebration of automotive craftsmanship. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the 2024 Concours events. 🏆





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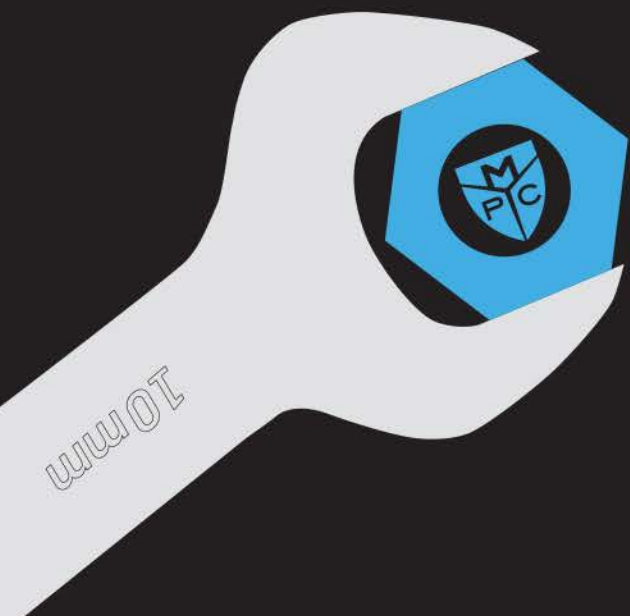
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Autocross 5 – No Worse for the Wear

by Michael Bene



photo: Michael Bene



The final Autocross for the 2023 season was held at Wintrust Field on September 9, a relatively early season finish this year, but our grizzled crew might well have been ready for some rest.

Two of our top contenders had off-course challenges: David Bowers had a bicycle accident and Bill Fitzsimmons had car mechanical issues. As a result, Bill was driving fellow competitor Mark Nistor's car, and David was driving mine, each in an attempt to maintain their respective point standings. *If* each driver succeeded, the unofficial season standings as of this writing will be as follows:

- First place: Marcin Proszek
- Second place: David Bowers
- Third place is currently a tie between Teodor Petrov and Bart Surowka
- Fifth place: Bill Fitzsimmons

continued



photo: Michael Bene

Autocross 5 – No Worse for the Wear *continued*



photo: Michael Bene



We'll all be looking forward to the Dinner Dance this year to hear how the tie between Teodor and Bart resolved itself.

This year's AX 5 also marked the passing of the torch from Adam Kern to David Bowers, as David will be taking over as Autocross Chair for the 2024 season. I had the opportunity to ask David what he's thinking about as we move into the 2024 season. He responded that he'd like to see more Porsches participating in these events. Possibly we'll see an all Porsche sell out in 2024? He'll also be looking for some different venues, to mix things up a bit next season. To that end, he'll also be seeking participant feedback, so look for a survey coming up, but please also feel free to reach out directly to David if you have suggestions.



photo: Michael Bene



photo: Michael Bene

In closing, thanks for your support this year, whether by competing or spectating, and we look forward to seeing you all out there again next year! 🍷



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Oktoberfest 2023 at Blackhawk Farms Raceway

Oktoberfest at Blackhawk Farms Raceway in South Beloit, IL, was two incredible days of beautiful weather, great driving, and delicious food. It was also an excellent finale to our Blackhawk HPDE events for the season.

Though some arrived Friday afternoon or evening, I arrived early on Saturday, just as the track opened. The air was cool and the track quiet. I grabbed a cup of coffee and exchanged waves and greetings with old friends and new ones alike.

Soon the distinctive sound of Porsches filled the air and the action began for the day. On the track everything was lively. Blackhawk is a fun place to drive, with turns that require attention to detail, and a couple

of fast straights that end in hard right turns that keep your heart working. This is fun stuff.

by Robert Safe

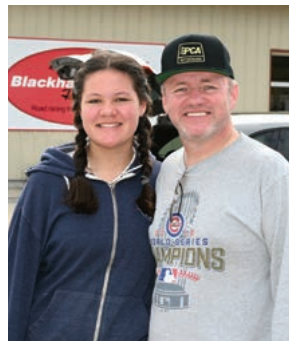
With the last run for the day completed way too soon, the Oktoberfest celebration began, and cold beverages fueled the conversations as we reviewed the day. A fine dinner of traditional German style foods was delicious and satisfying. And for dessert?





The thickest chocolate layer cake I've ever seen. Amazing! Later, as the sun set, the Fischer family swung into action and brought the traditional bonfire to life, providing a suitable backdrop for more conversation and laughter well into the evening.

Sunday was another beautiful track day, packed again with plenty of fast sessions for each run group. The day finished up with pizza for all. It was a perfect weekend of driving and feasting. What's not to like? What a great time! 🍷





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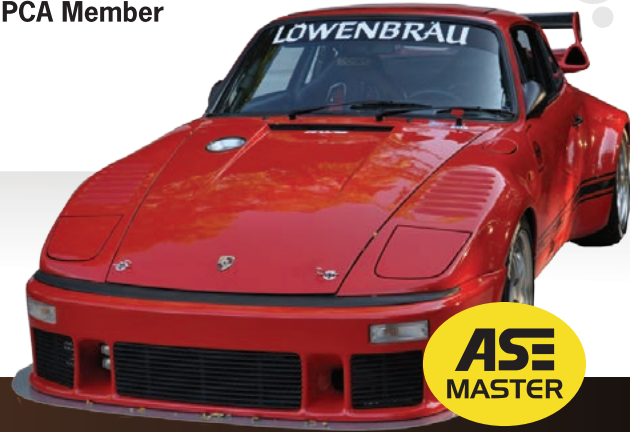
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The 2023 Driving Season's Final Act – Autobahn Full Track

by Dana Comolli

What a difference a year makes: ten degrees warmer, no snow flakes, and 30% more novice drivers. Based on the post-event survey from last-year, we incorporated our normal classroom instruction into the event schedule, and, as they say, if you build it, they will come. Many thanks to Napleton Westmont Porsche for their generous sponsorship of this and other events in the Region.



The day started out chilly, so in the interest of safety, we ran the first two laps of the first session for each run group under yellow instead of our normal one to allow folks more time to get their tires up to temperature.

continued



The full track is pretty long at 3.56 miles, so everyone had lots of clear track to work with. The folks who had never driven the full track, and that was almost half of the attendees, really appreciated that as it gave them plenty of room to spread out and learn.

In the afternoon classroom, we did something a little different. Normally, we go over turn-by-turn video of driving the track. This year we had two videos from two different drivers: both in a 2016 GT4, very different lines in certain areas of the track. Lap time difference of only 2/10 of a second. It made for an interesting session.



Three comments from the attendees that came up over and over: we love the full track; we want to drive it more often; and let's do it earlier in the season.

I'll see what we can do.... 🍷



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The SOCIAL SCENE

by Robert Safe



Porsches & Pilsners by Robert Safe

On October 7, 2023, the Club returned to Hardware Sustainable Gastropub & Brewery for a Porsches & Pilsners celebration. Members were rewarded with a bright sunny sky, some cool but comfortable temperatures, and a fine collection of Porsches. Our host, Bruce Burns, Managing Partner at Hardware, set

aside a portion of the lot for our exclusive use and rolled out the welcome mat.

Bruce and his fine staff offered exceptional food and beverages for those in the mood, and I once again succumbed to the Le Pig Mac smoked pork shoulder sandwich that was complimented by a

continued



photo: Robert Saife



glass (okay, two) of Friskyfest, a traditional German Festbier. I enjoyed both very much. Back under the sun I got to look at the cars more carefully. My favorite this time was the silver 996 sporting some very cool red, green and white livery. Ahhh, nicely done. 🍷



2023 EVENT CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 2 Board Meeting
- 12 Fall Tech Session, Olsen Motorsports
- 18 P & P 5 / Toys for Tots, Labriola

DECEMBER

- 9 Annual Awards & Dinner Dance Gala

Event details are subject to change and several dates and venues have not yet been confirmed. Please refer to the Club's website for updated information:

<https://pca-chicago.org/event-schedule/>

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Rallye 5: The Finale to a Grand Year!

by Sharon and Steve Olson



The Rallye Finale of 2023 began with coffee, donuts, and cars on exhibition thanks to Adam Kosela, owner of Euroquipe in St. Charles. Eighteen enthusiastic Rallye teams participated, including thirteen in the “Seat of the Pants” class (“SOP”) and

five in the “Touring” class. We were also lucky to have three novice teams battling their way through SOP.

The Rallye rules, definitions, priorities, and navigational or timing tricks are introduced at the Rallye School in May of each year, but the “tricks” get progressively tougher as the year progresses. This year’s Rallye 5—the “*On Course, Of Course Rallye*”—was no exception. Teams navigated their way on beautiful roads, at generally higher speeds in rural Kane County where they had to remember the rule of redundancy, priority of the “main road” rule, three ONTO roads (and understanding the ONTO definition), roads that didn’t exist, finding that double arrow, and, of course, you can’t turn on a sign. It is VERY rewarding for the Rallyemasters to trick other experienced teams, especially those that have been prior Rallyemasters. As Rallye



continued



5 Rallyemasters, naturally, that was our goal. With four off-course checkpoints receiving 300 point penalties and six off-course checkpoints receiving no penalty, there was only one experienced SOP Rallye team that did not hit any off-course checkpoint. Of course, this team took first place: congratulations to Jack and Karen

Stephensen for winning the Rallye, and with only 411 points! It wasn't a big surprise that the tough redundancy rule was the trick where most teams incurred the 300 point penalty.

2023, a fantastic Rallye year, was often termed the Rallye Revival! A special thanks to all who participated, those who mentored, volunteered or pre-ran Rallyes, and especially to



the Rallyemasters of the season: Brian and Danielle Scifers; Bob Rath and Cindy Jacisin; Steve Rashbaum and Susan Shire; Jack and Karen Stephensen; and Steve and Sharon Olson.

In closing, there is no Rallye if Rallyemasters don't create it! We know we've recruited some new diehard Rallyists in 2023 and hope to continue that trend in 2024. Please mark your calendars for the 2024 Rallye school, which takes place on Sunday, May 5, 2024. You'll either learn an addicting new road game, or sharpen your current Rallye skills! 🍂

Our customer Louis,
on his way to the podium
at Sebring this year.



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photo: Michael Bene

A Chicago Street Fest With Porsches:

Checkeditout '23

by Adam Hurlburt

When a ghost tells Kevin Costner, “If you build it, they will come” in everyone’s favorite spooky baseball movie, Kev initially doubts a baseball field in rural Iowa will attract anything but debt collectors.¹ Things are different in Chicago. Throw a Porsche Party in the heart of Fulton Market and people will come. Throngs of Chicagoans experienced Checkeditout this year, enthusiasts and normies alike. It’s hard to ignore the draw of 350-plus Porsches parked in one of the city’s hippest spots. Throw in rad art, a live



photo: Max Flareman



photo: Jeff Brown



photo: Doystermedia

DJ, and the welcoming vibes of Midwest Porschephiles and you have yourself a memorable time.

To the Checkeditout team, success is measured in new friendships forged. If you were at Check23 there’s a good chance you planned meetups, wrench parties, or drives with new pals.

continued

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“What I love about Checkeditout is the people,” Tyler Hayes told me as I admired his Chiffon White '81 911SC at Check23. “Every car has its own heartfelt individualization done to it. It’s neat to see that and to hear people’s stories.” Everyone else I talked to echoed these words. I mean, ask CIO co-founder Adam Kern why he started this project and he’ll tell you he was motivated by the close friendships he made through the Porsche scene. Yes, the things we love in fervor divide us into tribes, but in those tribes we find a sense of community. Few things are more important. 🍷



photo: Steven Garcia



photo: Max Flareman



photo: Jeff Brown



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photo: Jeff Brown



photo: Michael Bene

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The home at 945 Old Green Bay Road in Winnetka was designed by renowned architect Don Erickson. The Cayman GTS 4.0 is unmistakable.



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Ok, so the car is just for attention, but if you're looking for a home that's as special as your Porsche, let's talk. I help clients buy and sell amazing modern properties designed by architects like Don Erickson, Keck & Keck, Dennis Blair, Schiller & Frank, Don Tosi, Tivadar Balogh, I.G. Colburn, Henry Newhouse II and more. This spectacular home at 945 Old Green Bay Road in Winnetka was originally designed for photographer Dick Boyer, and is now available for the first time in more than 40 years. Sadly, car not included.



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Loyal Members Show without Shine

by Eliot Dam



Yet again, the minds of Eliot Dam and Dan Cubric, with the support of Scott McClusky and Dominic Dugo, conspired to create a unique setting for the season's final Show and Shine. Thanks to the Midwest weather-gods, however, the shine didn't happen and PCA-Chicago made a gametime decision to call off the event, given the wet and soft ground at the Long Grove property.

Nevertheless, the enthusiasm of a loyal group of attendees was not to be dampened. Soon a



continued



food truck arrived and the clouds parted, leaving the afternoon to an enjoyable outdoor get-together. Old friends met new members, and all talked with great anticipation about the upcoming excitement of Rennsport Reunion.

The afternoon ended with a loading of cars into transports, provided by Via Concours (yours truly), bound for a Rallye to Rennsport from Reno, NV into Monterey, CA sponsored by Roads United, Wisconsin's Ächtungskraft, and Pennsylvania's Zuffenphilly.

Many thanks to all who braved the weather and made this a great event. 🍷



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