

2024 PCA Chicago Region Candidate Information

Dana M Comolli - President

I am gratified to be the Nominating Committee's selection for President of the Chicago Region. I believe I have made substantial contributions to the club as a director and during my two terms as Vice President and feel I can do even more for the club in the position of President.

To provide background for those that do not know me, I am the founder and President of DMAXX, LLC, a global supplier of operating software to the Alternative Investment Industry. I joined PCA in 2009 after purchasing a 2002 911 Turbo. I currently own a 2011 GT3 RS, a 2016 Cayenne GTS, and a 2013 GT3 Cup. I have been heavily involved in Drivers Ed where I have been an instructor since 2018 and the classroom instructor for Blackhawk since 2019. I am a PCA Notional Instructor, a PCA National Instructor Mentor, and a Motorsport Safety Foundation Certified Instructor. I have served as the Sponsorship chair since 2019 and am the coordinator for the HPDE events at Autobahn. I am responsible for the club's website and am currently Vice President of the club.

I have demonstrated I can identify issues that need to be addressed, have the ability to define a solution, and most importantly, have the follow-through to ensure that the issues are addressed. I have shown leadership in multiple areas of the club and the ability to work in multiple roles within teams as well as acting as a mentor to others. I look forward to continue addressing issues that span the entire club.

Some highlights of accomplishments during my involvement in the club's leadership team include:

- The establishment of an annual pre-season DE Instructor workshop to improve the quality and consistency of our instructors and improve the level of education and event experience of our novice drivers. This and my influence in the overall HPDE curriculum have led to a marked increase in the retention of new drivers.
- The re-working and on-going maintenance of the club's website resulting in the Chicago Region winning the 1st Place Website for large regions, two years in a row.
- The planning and implementation of our first HPDE event that included SUVs.
- The planning and implementation of our first Ladies-only HPDE event including getting it fully-funded by a sponsor and generating > \$3,400 for this year's charity.
- Influencing policies that have resulted in a dramatic increase in the funds raised for our charity.
- The streamlining of the development of the hardcopy calendar.
- The replacement of the printed program for TRAC with a live, mobile-friendly, highly-functional web-based application.
- Ongoing enhancement and support of the Autocross timing results mobile application. Was part of the team that increased the average number of runs per event from 8 to 12 per participant by optimizing the way the event was operated.
- The institution of post-event surveys to incorporate the membership's suggestions into how events are run.
- Spearheaded the complete revision of the region's bylaws.

Looking forward, the areas I believe require leadership focus are:

1. Recruitment and development of members into leadership roles throughout the club needs to become a formal, institutionalized process. This is the most critical issue facing the club.
2. In conjunction with #1, prioritize and formalize the recruitment, training, and certification of instructors for DE. I would like to see Chicago host a National Instructor school within the next two years.

3. Increasing the participation rate of our membership in events. 2023 looks to be a very good year in terms of attendance, however, a relatively small percentage of our members actually attend events. The reasons for this should be explored and incorporated into future event planning and membership outreach.
4. Expand event offerings to include PCA Street Survival and the inclusion of more PCA Junior activities.
5. Migrate our accounting from Quicken to QuickBooks and switch internal reporting to accrual-based rather than cash-based. I would like to make this a 2024 priority with the new treasurer.
6. Develop and execute a strategy to reliably raise \$100,000 per year for our charity of the year.

Adam Kern – Vice President

I'm Adam Kern, this November I'll be a PCA member for 11 years. I got my first Porsche on a Saturday in 2012, by Monday I joined the club.

In 2014 I became a regular at autocross. That same year my partner Brooke and I attended every rallye to become the novice rallyists of the year. We attended our first dinner dance that year. We did not make it in 2015, but haven't missed one since.

In 2018 after pestering then social media chair, John Westra to promote autocross, he relented to my numerous requests and made me a Facebook admin. In early 2019 I brought us to Instagram which really drives participation from prospective members. Our account is approaching 2000, Facebook is 3000.

Also, in 2018 Scott McClement asked me to run an autocross in his absence. By 2019 I was leading the program. It's been five years, a lot of fun and sold out events.

Along the way there's been a lot of fun and awards. 2017 is the highlight for me winning Enthusiast of the year, club overall and autocross.

I've also done my share on the social side of things, creating the Swap Meet with Michael Grove, our Show & Shine at Roads United, Golf Outing and the notorious 2022 Dinner Dance with Dan Cubric.

I've been on the NomCom twice and will be completing my 4th year on the board, 3 as director, 1 as secretary.

Cheryl A. Lehman Collier - Vice President

I have made substantial contributions to the club since joining in 2006, as Director for three terms, the Autocross Coordinator for six, the Autocross School coordinator for four, and the event chair for both RADE and TRAC for the past three years. I have demonstrated the ability to pull together groups of members and ensure that complex events are organized and executed successfully (Most @) (real legwork) for our first Ladies' Day HPDE

In the coming year, I think the club's leadership should focus on:

- The recruitment and development of members into leadership roles
- Increasing participation of membership in events
- Increasing membership volunteerism at events
- Expanding event offerings to include more PCA Juniors activities and, potentially, Street Survival
- Developing a strategy to reliably raise \$100,000 for our charity of the year

Catherine Fischer - Treasurer

Rick and I are active members of the club, and professionally I am a tax accountant. In the nonprofit world - I have been on the finance committee for CASA of McHenry county for the past 5 years. They have 2 (3) year terms, so I will be rolling off their board December 2024.

- Co-coordinator of Potter's Picnic – the longest running event in all of PCA
- Supported the first Ladies' Day HPDE
- DE participant
- Active in PCA Juniors

Pete Hackenson - Secretary

- 29 Years in the Chicago Region PCA Club, attending most all Board Meetings
- A Prior Board Director 2001-2004.
- Blackhawk CO-Chair since 2001 and Tech Chair in late 90's
- Chaired and Co-Chaired Road America RADE and TRAC events for 20 years
- Competed in Concourse, Autocross, Rally and DE TRACK events – Exceeding 250 Days.
- Produced the Great 2003 Hawaiian TRAC Shirt - Now an antique and many other events shirts we continually see in around the paddocks.
- Received Family of the year, Enthusiast of the year and several other cherished awards.

Michael Bene – Board of Directors

I have been active in the local Chicago Region since joining in 2018. I am passionate about automotive culture and enjoy interacting with others that are like-minded. I feel that our region has something special. The choices of events that this region provides every year has done well to create a welcoming environment that enables its members to create lasting bonds and build a strong local community. I feel that I am a good choice for Director because:

- I have been focused, with my partner Rebecca, on meeting as many members as possible and have made many connections. I look forward to continuing to build my network in the automotive community.
- I participate in as many events as possible over the course of each season, including:
 - Driving Tours
 - Autocross
 - Social Events
 - Member Meetings
 - I have also attended Concours and DE events as a spectator.
- I have contributed as a writer and photographer for many events. My work is featured in The Scene and on our Social Media Channels on a regular basis.
- I assist Dana with website development from time to time.
- I am involved with other PCA Chicago Region members in the organization of Checkeditout Chicago. Checkeditout is an event hosted in the urban setting of Chicago to bring together Porsche enthusiasts and celebrate the many qualities of our great city. Last year, the event attracted several hundred Porsches and many more spectators. I support Checkeditout by:
 - Helping manager the technical stack (website, email, etc)
 - Contributing photography
 - Other general organization and leadership tasks as required.
- This year I am attending a few National Events, including Porsche Parade and Rennsport Reunion.
- I have a "get it done" attitude and am willing to jump in wherever needed to help foster success.

Pete Bukantis – Board of Directors

I've been:

- an active member since 2005.
- autocross timing coordinator since 2006
- co-coordinator/registration person for Blackhawk since 2021
- organize the Oktoberfest meal at Blackhawk since 2021

I volunteer at many other events throughout the years well.

My participation in multiple events across the year gives me a good perspective of the club and see what members like and don't like.

I want to offer my time once again to represent the club member's best interests in regards to official club business

Robert Safe– Board of Directors

I've been a PCA member for about three years and have been an active participant in club events since I joined, including HPDE, Tech Sessions and Porsches and Pastries. Starting about two years ago I put together the Great Drives that appear on our website, and began assisting with the planning and implementation of various social events. About one year ago I volunteered to be the Social Events Coordinator and have worked with other club members and the board of directors on the planning and implementation of events taking place throughout the year. Along the way I've also written many articles for our magazine, The Chicago Scene, reporting on a variety of club events and my experience as a novice driver. I enjoy the interaction with club members and making new friends with fellow enthusiasts.

In serving the club I draw on my experience as a board member and senior officer of several professional organizations I've been involved with over the course of my career, and as president and chief operating officer of a large midwestern consulting firm, and as owner of my own consulting practice for the last 25 years. We have a great organization and I look forward to helping out.