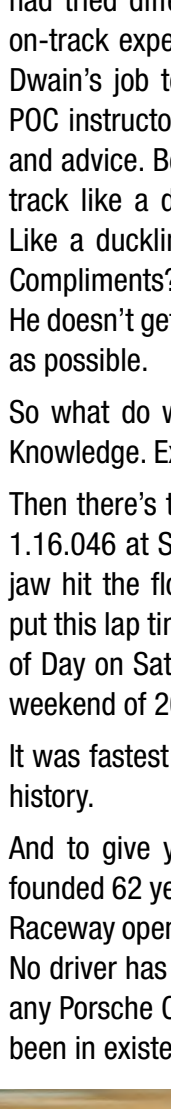


Join us in thanking and supporting all of our sponsors for the 2017 season!



Season Opener Defines the POC

Sandy Isaac

Dwain Dement ran a 1.16.046 at Streets of Willow during the Performance Driving Series & Time Attack weekend of January 14th and 15th.

That single sentence defines the total Porsche Owners Club driving experience. How so? Glad you asked. Let's break that sentence down into its component parts and find out.

We'll begin with Dwain Dement, the Chief Driving Instructor for the POC. It's Dwain's responsibility to provide the best possible instructors and instruction for our excited, nervous students about to put their automotive pride and joy on a race track. Some students arrived at Streets that weekend in Porsches. Some did not. Some were there for their very first track laps. Others had tried different driving clubs and sought our higher level of on-track experience and commitment to driver safety. So it was Dwain's job to connect each student with one of his volunteer POC instructors to provide the best possible individual guidance and advice. Because every student is different. Some take to the track like a duckling to water. But for some it's more difficult. Like a duckling knitting a ski sweater. Big steps? Baby steps? Compliments? Complaints? Dwain oversees it all as a volunteer. He doesn't get paid to make sure everyone's event is as enjoyable as possible.

So what do we have so far from our sentence...Volunteerism. Knowledge. Experience. Dedication.

Then there's the next part of our sentence. The headline...ran a 1.16.046 at Streets of Willow. I nearly chipped a tooth when my jaw hit the floor reading that at the track after it happened. To put this lap time into perspective...This wasn't just the Fast Time of Day on Saturday. Or just Fast Time of Day over the first event weekend of 2017.

It was fastest lap time at Streets of Willow ever recorded in POC history.

And to give you a broader perspective on this...Our club was founded 62 years ago. One year after Willow Springs International Raceway opened. And to go one step further (because why not)... No driver has ever recorded a lap anywhere close to that time at any Porsche Club of America timed lap event in the years they've been in existence. So this is... wait for it...

THE FASTEST LAP EVER RUN AT STREETS OF WILLOW IN A PORSCHE.

Take a beat. Read that again. Now look up the definition of "Badass." There's a picture of Dwain's car flashing across the start/finish line on Saturday. (Okay. There may not be a picture there yet. But you smell what I'm cooking here.)

So now we're really getting to the core of what it is to run with the POC from our opening sentence: History. Speed. Safety. Porsche Performance. Overall Badassery. (There is a strong chance this is not a real word but I don't care.)

And then the final chunk of our opening sentence...during the Performance Driving Series & Time Attack weekend of January 14th and 15th. Why is it relevant that Dwain ran this historic lap in his racing Porsche 911 during a PDA/TA weekend when there were no races scheduled? Why did he push his car to the edge and beyond to break the record? After all, he's an experienced racer who will spend the rest of the front of the Cup Race grids attempting to win a POC Cup near class championship which means hours of wear on his engine, his tires, using gallons of expensive race gas.

I personally think Dwain ran that lap at Streets because as Chief Driving Instructor he strives to be the shining example we look to follow. The high bar we strive to reach. In one minute and 16 seconds, Dwain reminded everyone why the POC is the Top Gun, elite group of amateur track drivers. (Side note - I recorded my own personal best at 1:31.7 during the weekend. The idea of going nearly 16 seconds a lap faster is inconceivable.)

You know that old saying, "Those who can - Do. Those who can't - Teach." Well that cynic never met Dwain or anyone from the POC who gives back to engage and develop the future of our club. (Another side note - I enjoyed instructing and watching my own student improve over the day, trimming seconds off his lap time during each session.)

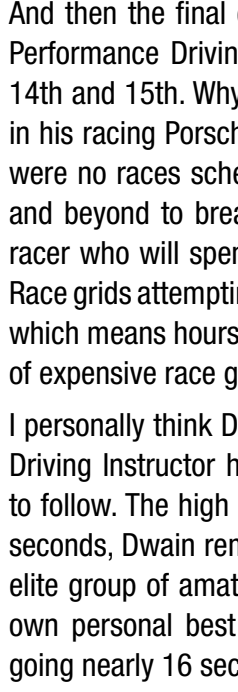
So let's tally up what we've got from that opening sentence now: Role Model, Standard of Excellence, Volunteerism, Knowledge, Experience, Dedication, History, Speed, Safety, Porsche Performance and (my personal favorite) Overall Badassery.

Yep. That's exactly how I see the total POC driving experience. If Dwain's work ethic for our club over the years had resulted in some sort of advanced degree, his diploma would make him: P.O.C.S.O.W.G.O.A.T. But who knows? That Saturday at Streets of Willow, there may have been a newbie who years from now will drive the wheels off his or her Porsche to record a 1:15.9.

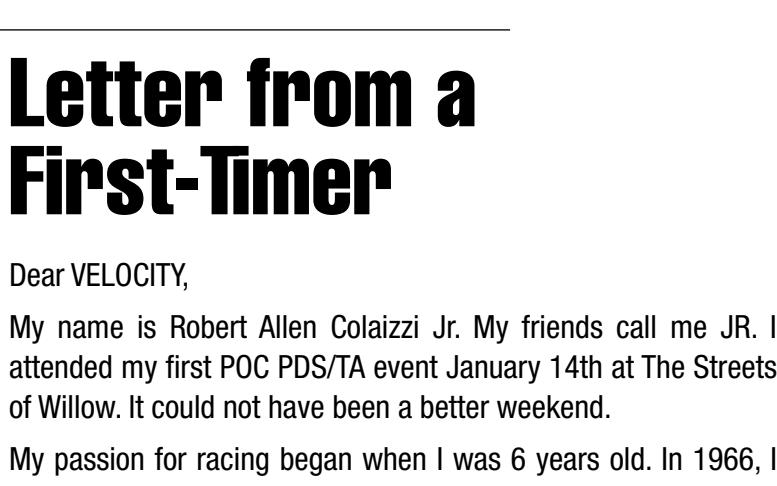
More likely, years from now, there'll be a goofy guy bragging to some POC newbies about how he was at Streets of Willow the day Dwain Dement ran the fastest lap ever.

And that guy will be me.

See you at the track.



POC @ PEC



Andrew D. Weyman

This year's Annual Banquet was memorable for many reasons. It was held on January 21, 2017 at the new Porsche Experience Center in Carson. It was the largest event to take place there since the PEC Grand Opening. The Banquet sold out with 240 guests and had a waiting list of 20 more members eager to attend. Heavy rains earlier in the day failed to keep members away. As a matter of fact, many members showed up an hour early.

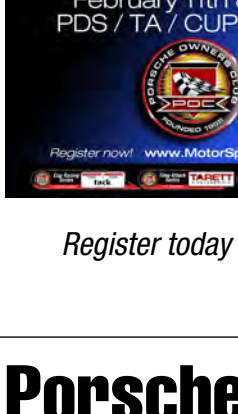
Banquet Chair, Terry Davis, did a brilliant job putting it all together. Her attention to detail and her ability to organize is simply amazing. Suggesting that her husband serve as Master of Ceremonies was a stroke of genius.

It took a lot of volunteers, coordination and cooperation to make this event a great success. We all owe a debt of gratitude to our volunteers: Terry Davis, Don Matz, Marlene Bridges, Dave Bruder, Brett Gaviglio, Jackie Lu, Brad Keegan, Elysia Whitis, Simran, Drake Kemper, Erin Vogel, Carolyn Pappas, and Karen Robinson. Our event sponsors, along with our volunteers, made this celebration possible. Special thanks goes to: Porsche Cars North America, Vision Motorsports, Stand 21, Dr. Alexander Marmureanu and Vali Motorsports.

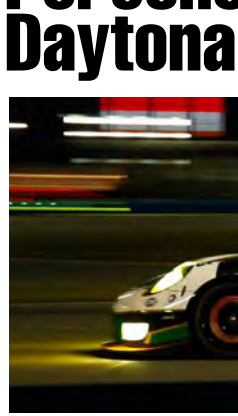
It was great to see our members all cleaned up. We're a fairly good-looking group when we're not sporting helmet heads. The evening started off with cocktails, tours of the venue, and demo laps. The Porsche Motorsports facility was a real crowd pleaser. The simulator room was pulsing with adrenaline. The gift shop was buzzing with activity and camaraderie was being enjoyed everywhere. A delicious three-course dinner was served and the ceremonies began.

President Ron Palmer chaired our Annual Meeting. Respects were paid to beloved member, Steve Vandecar, who recently succumbed to cancer.

Guest speakers, Andre Oosthuizen, Vice President Marketing & Communications, PCNA, and Craig Stanton, Pro-driver/Coach addressed the crowd. Other notable guests included Jens Walther, CEO and President Porsche Motorsports North America, former President of PMNA Alwin Springer, Paul Gregor, Manager Porsche Clubs, PCNA and Pro driver Rick Knop.



Duane Selby was awarded "Driver of the Year," Ron Palmer and John Gordon shared "Member of the Year," Dwain Dement received the "Service Points Champion" award, Brad Keegan earned "Competition Points Champion," Dave Elsner won "Most Improved Cup Race Driver," Joe Weiderholt was crowned "Rookie of the Year" and Bruce Blokus went home with the coveted "John Deere Award." These winners and all our Class Champions were awarded beautiful trophies. That is, except Bruce, who has to live with that hideous thing for a full year.



Karen Robinson won the big raffle and took home the Porsche Design 911 Soundbar. The live auction of the Stand 21 driving suit saw some spirited bidding. Chris Pedersen outbid his rivals and is going to look mighty spiffy in his new custom fit suit. Winding Road Racing gift certificates went to two lucky winners who weren't as lucky when it came to winning the 911 Soundbar. One guest at each table went home with a great bottle of German Riesling, courtesy of Terry Davis and Andrew Weyman.



During the evening, members talked excitedly about the start of our 2017 race season. Conversation was lively and lots of laughter was heard throughout the evening. As the women began removing their high heels and the men loosened their ties, members drifted to the parking lot for the ride home in their Porsches. The threat of rain had passed. The ride home was fast and fun. It was truly a night to remember.



Letter from a First-Timer

Dear VELOCITY,

My name is Robert Allen Colaizzi Jr. My friends call me JR. I attended my first POC PDS/TA event January 14th at The Streets of Willow. It could not have been a better weekend.

My passion for racing began when I was 6 years old. In 1966, I saw the movie "Grand Prix." In the opening scene, the 1965 Grand Prix car fired up and a visceral reaction stirred deep within me.

I got my first Honda 50 mini bike at 9 years old. I chose not to ride it the first day so I could sleep next to it in my bedroom. By the age of 14, I had put my first car through a split rail fence. At 15, I went toe-to-toe with a local police officer. I was driving a BMW while my parents were out of town. Twenty-five years later, I put a Honda CBR 600 on The Streets of Willow. This was my first time on a real racetrack. Sadly, I wound up having my right hip resurfaced and destroyed my motorcycle.

In 2010, I drove a Subaru Sti at a Speed Ventures event. In 2011, with Speed Ventures, I placed 2nd in Time Attack. Then, in 2012, I placed 1st. I enrolled in a Skip Barber Race Clinic at Sebring and had the best week of my life. It was a two-day advanced school: one day of practice, a qualifying and a race day. My third race was the Masters. I took 3rd!

Shortly thereafter, my racing came to an end. I started playing golf, got fat and depressed.

But now I'm back, with the POC. And, with the help of TRE Motorsports, I'm building what will hopefully become a Spec Boxster.

The weekend at The Streets was heaven. Everyone was so nice and helpful. My first instructor, Chick Richardson, gave me some of the same notes I got from my instructors at Skip Barber.

Then I started working with Marty Meherian, who I would like to say is now officially my coach.

Dwain Dement and Ron Palmer could not have been nicer and more helpful. The track walk Dwain gave on Big Willow was super-informative. I never knew Turn 1 was so heavily banked. Dwain's wisdom just flowed all the way through the exit of turn nine.

I took a 1970 911 hot rod to POC Streets event in January but now I'm looking forward to putting the Boxster on the track for the first time at WSIR February 11 and 12.

I feel alive, happy and super enthusiastic because I am finally doing what I was born to do. On the one hand, I will go to my grave wondering how good I could have been. On the other hand, I am hugely grateful just to be back.

A big thank you to everyone who has ever taken even one second of his or her life to help me be better at the thing I most love.

Sincerely
J R

Your 2017 POC BOB



From left to right: John Gordon, Dwain Dement, Nathan Johnson, Ron Palmer, Don Matz, Dave Bruder and Kurt Gokbudak

Coming Up!



Register today at [MotorSport Reg.com](http://MotorSportReg.com)

Porsche Makes Good on Daytona 24 Promises

A GTD class win for the Allegra Motorsports GT3R and a GTLM podium for the mid-engine 911 RSR

Check Us Out!

Be sure to check out the new POC website for our 2017 schedule of events and to stay current on PDS, Time Attack and Cup Racing standings.

And, don't miss the Official POC Facebook Page with photos, videos and comments from our members.