



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Carole Hedstrom, *President*

ORPCA Bringing PCA Club Racing Back to Portland

We are just a few weeks into 2026, and I can already feel the energy and enthusiasm for the next driving season. In addition to our monthly social events, the best autocross program in the region, seven multi-night tours, and 60+ single day drives, ORPCA is bringing PCA Club Racing back to Portland. An opportunity to host Club Racing at Rose Cups at Portland International Raceway presented itself in December. After hours of discussions, back-and-forth, weighing of pros and cons, the Board decided to take a leap of faith and try something new.

What does that mean for you, the membership? You will have the opportunity to see first class racing by your brethren right here in Portland. PCA Club Racing will be a shot of adrenalin to Rose Cups this year. There will be numerous opportunities to volunteer your time and help with the event. The weekend of July 10-12 will bring 40 PCA Racers to PIR as part of Rose Cup Weekend. While details and plans are in the early stages, ORPCA will be there to support the race, the racers, our members and to help shine a positive light on Portland. We will keep you posted as plans progress.

I would like to give a shout-out for our mid-week drives. If you haven't had the opportunity to join a mid-week drive, I highly recommend it. Of course, not all of us are in the position to

head out for a drive on any given Wednesday. But, if you are in position to play hooky from life during the week, take advantage of these drives. Weekday driving is different because, well, it's not the weekend. You may encounter more tree-trimming crews during the week, but in general, the back roads are even quieter, and the restaurants more easy-going. You will have a great time and be home in time to catch up on any tasks you avoided earlier in the day. Take a mid-week break, you deserve it.

Our Club's leadership team is strategizing for long-term goals: strengthen member engagement, expand our roster of events, and deepen the camaraderie that is our greatest asset. The Club made tremendous improvements this past year in the areas of event organization, member outreach, and the number of activities we offered. Now is the time to build on our momentum and aim higher. The collective creativity and energy from the Board and many members will shape 2026 into a year filled with short drives, extended tours, new social gatherings, and fresh opportunities for everyone to get involved.

Let's make 2026 our best year yet! See you at the next event and thank you for being part of this journey! Please contact me at president@oregonpca.org to get involved and volunteer your expertise. Let's Drive! ■