

From 7 to 70 **Driving Tours Amped Up** in 2025

BY BRAD HEDSTROM

We needed to both improve efficiency (do more with the same effort) and increase capacity (more volunteers).

riving Tours are, by far, the most popular activity our club offers; so popular that they often fill quickly. So, during the 2025 strategic planning meeting held last November, the Board and Chairs agreed that we needed to hold many more such drives. In 2024 our club held 54; for 2025 we have already completed over 30 and are planning on holding over 70! By way of comparison, the average for all PCA North America regions is around seven. (I've heard this third hand have not yet received confirmation from National PCA.)

While over the past few years we have organized a lot of drives, we needed to scale that up by 50%, and we couldn't just ask the same volunteers to just lead more drives. We

needed to both improve efficiency (do more with the same effort) and increase capacity (more volunteers).

BUILDING ON A GREAT FOUNDATION

The previous Tour Directors and Tour Leaders created a great foundation that we needed to fine-tune and scale up. Our approach was to:

- Clarify and distribute the responsibilities over a larger group of volunteers
- Have a primary and a secondary (backup) owner for each area of responsibility
- Leverage our digital infrastructure that has been evolving over the past few years (ORPCA web site, Microsoft 365, Ride with GPS)

Role or Responsibility	Primary Owner	Secondary Owners
Tour Director		
 PCA communications 		
 Coordinating & Supporting Tour Leads 		
 Tour Manual & Training 		
Drive Calendar	Brad Hedstrom	Jim Goetsch
PCA Certificate of Insurance	Jeff Gasparitsch	Dan Morris
Managing Drive Wait Lists	Randi Ledbetter	David Zygmont
Publishing drive descriptions on web	David Zygmont	Heinz Holzapfel
Post-drive records collection	Dan Wilson	Tosh Kanno
	Heinz Holzapfel	
Ride with GPS Administration	Jeff Gasparitsch	Brad Hedstrom
		Mike Newby
Ride with GPS Training	Jeff Gasparitsch	Jim Goetsch
Drive Library Administration	Dan Wilson	Brad Hedstrom
Photo Collection	Rick Pittman	Monte Allen

Nearly six months into the year we have a process and a group of dedicated volunteers that is working very well. Thanks to all their hard work, my job as Tour Director is pretty smooth.

RECRUITING TOUR LEADERS

No matter how smooth the process is, running everything hinges on the Tour Leaders. While we have many very experienced Tour Leaders we simply needed more people to deliver over 70 drives this year. We also need more people to be Group Leads and Sweeps. Being a Group Lead is a great first step in becoming a Tour Lead.

This spring we held a Tours Training Class. We had 22 people attend the classroom portion (some experienced leads, others new) and 14 attend a Tours Training Drive.

Here are your Tour Leaders (so far) for 2025. They are the ones who make the drives happen!

New Tour Leaders for 2025	Active Tour Leaders from Previous Years	
Fred Holzheiser	Scott Dual	Bob Ellis
Steve Moody	Jeff Gasparitsch	Jim Goetsch
Jonathan Vinson	Brad Hedstrom	Carole Hedstrom
Dan Wilson	Heinz Holzapfel	Randy Holms
David Zygmont	Tosh Kanno	Randi Ledbetter
	Dan Morris	Mike Newby
	Rick Pittman	

FAQS

Q: Why is there a limit in the number of cars that can sign up for a drive? Why is it a different number depending on the drive?

A: There are many considerations that factor in: e.g. start and end locations, parking and bathroom stop size, impact on communities. The Tour Leader determines the number of cars that he or she is comfortable leading for a tour.



Q: Why do we often have multiple groups in a drive? A: Porsche Club of America has Tour Standards that each region must follow and breaking up a tour into smaller groups is one of them. Several small groups allow tours to utilize smaller parking lots and bathroom stops.

> Q: Why don't all drives end at a restaurant?

A: We typically have over 30 and sometimes close to 50 participants in a drive. Finding restaurants to accommodate a group of that size is a challenge and limits us on end destinations. Also, an increasing number of restaurants require a prepaid reservation or a facility fee. The club does not allow that for

single-day drives (since no money is collected). The Club provides these drives free of charge, thanks to volunteer involvement, and does not want to charge for drives in order to cover the costs of restaurant reservations or fees.

Q: This sounds very exciting! How do I volunteer? A: Great question! Please contact me, Brad Hedstrom, and tours@orgegonpca.org ■