



# Pylon Press

December 2024 Fall Series #4

SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA - PHOENIX AZ SOLO REGION

## Event Synopsis

By Brian Miller,  
Pylon Press Editor

Very favorable weather greeted drivers and guests for the Fall Series #4 at AMP in Litchfield Park, AZ. One hundred and forty-two drivers braved the predawn chill in anticipating the enjoyment of playing with cars and visiting with fellow competitors. The course was fluid and fast, rewarding those looking well ahead to stay on a driving line that allowed constant momentum around the course elements. Several extremely competitive class PAX battles took place though out the day. In the Ladies contest three drivers, **Jessie Bistras, Mindi Cross,** and **Faith Hare,** posted some very fast PAX scores. At the days end Mindi came away with the win over Jessie by a scant .004! The ever-competitive CAM-T shootout was a back-and-forth contest for the lead on each consecutive run. No less than four drivers were within one second of each other on their best runs. **Juan Leal Jr.** posted a best overall PAX of 917 and best time of the day for CAM-T at 45.476. **John Tindle** came in within .167 of Juan's time with **Dan Hipskind,** and **Michael Hitt** close behind.

It is also fitting to list the Pylon Press 960+ overall PAX Honor Roll: The best event PAX was **Jason Bucki** with the score of 1000, followed by **Jay Balducci, Bruce Hanson, John Hogan, Brian Peters, Manfred Reysser, Doug Rowse, Dave Schotz, Taylour Wargo, Jeff Wong and Nicole Wong.**

Thanks to all for a fun and fabulous fall series.



**Steve Eymann** brought out his brand new beautiful metallic Red **2025 Corvette Z07** for the autocross on 12/14/24 and did very well with it on its initial outing. After an extensive national search for this model, he located this Z07 at a Chevy dealership in Alexandria, Louisiana. The car had arrived at the dealership the day he called. After a small hiccup with the title the car was shipped via enclosed trailer to AZ in just a few days. The new Z07 model features a variety of performance parts including carbon fiber wheels, Z07 aero package, 670 hp engine, 8-speed dual clutch tranny and stunning performance figures. The Z07 is reported to go from 0 to 100 and back in 12 seconds, although Steve has not tested that fact himself yet. Drivers in SS class might want to be on the lookout for some fresh competition from this red Corvette beauty.

# Driver of the Month



**Doug Rowse**  
2017 SSP Corvette Z06

**Doug Rowse**, a longtime resident of Ahwatukee is a quiet and mellow fellow who you might not know as one to the top autocross drivers in the county until you see him in action on the course. Piloting his 2017 SSP Corvette Z06 in the very competitive SPM class. Doug consistently posts lap times at local, regional, and national events with the "best of the best." His Z06 is very lightly modified with a DSC electronic shock controller, slightly wider front wheels and a rear spring from a Grand Sport. Doug shares, "My car is great fun because it's a somewhat challenging set up. I mostly selected the car to help round out my skillset of driving big power. I wanted something faster than my DSP car, yet a car that didn't require all the wrenching. It's a very fun car since the power is so addictive. The other car I drive a lot is a largely stock 2018 Porsche GT3. It's very different from the Z06, a lot more scalpel rather than hammer. It's an amazing car that requires a lot more adjustment to your driving style than most cars and that's what makes it so much fun to drive."

When asked about his autocross aspirations he shares he wants to participate in more National championships and make some significant contributions to the sport and the SCCA. Humbly he offers "I've been given a lot of opportunities, and I'd love to give back. I still want to continue to learn about suspension tuning and making the cars I drive better. I'd also like to continue teaching and instructing good drivers. I get a lot of joy from seeing others improve."

Doug's co-driver for more than 5 years is his old DSP brother from the East Coast, Chris Dressler. The story goes that they met after Doug brought a cooler of beer to impound at Nationals one year back when Doug was running his BMW in DSP. Sharing more, "We both had aspirations of owning a Porsche and we've been running his GT3 for SCCA National events and King of the Mountain." Doug has also been driving with **Morgan Lee** aka Smoko, for a bunch of events like One Lap of America and Muscle on the Mountain. Over the years, Doug has had some awesome driving partners and has had some great times with **Elliot Speidell**, **Brian Peters**, and **Jason Bucki**.

Doug's Impressions of AZ Solo Club is that the club has come a long way. He ended his comments with, "It's great to see so many new people developing into really fast drivers with some great machinery. I'm looking forward to seeing how the club changes as we move from AMP to PIR. I'm hopeful that we'll be able to introduce even more people to the sport as we move to a venue with more space and less time limits. I'm optimistic for the future of the club and I think it's headed in a great direction."

Doug was recently appointed to the SCCA's Solo Event Board.



# Volunteer of the Month



**Kevin Venisik**  
1993 CSP Miata

Kevin will be the first to tell you the credit for the development of these new club offerings was a team effort involving members of the 4-member elected executive board in concert with the Phoenix Area Solo Region Steering Committee made up of a broad cross section of club members. When asked what he would suggest in terms of ways to improve our club he offered the following: Step up to help when help is needed; be on time for your assignment; if you need to cancel, please notify us ASAP. At autocross events Kevin rarely stands in one place for any length of time. He can often be seen whizzing about on his folding bike checking in with area chiefs, timing and scoring or anyone needing assistance, guidance, or updated information. *Thanks, Kevin, for your leadership and the strong work ethic of the entire leadership team – It matters!*

**Kevin Venisik** is originally from the Chicago area and currently lives with his wife in Scottsdale. He has been a member of SCCA for some twenty-five years. Kevin currently works for Boeing as an Apache Helicopter engineer. In addition to autocross, he enjoys running, hiking, and traveling. He favors smaller, more agile two-seater cars for competition and currently campaigns a **1993 CSP Miata**. His favorite race car driver is Dan Gurney, and that any 1960's era Ferrari could be considered as his favorite model and dream car. Kevin has held numerous positions within the club including tear down, equipment assistant, Solo Safety Steward, and most recently, PASR President and Director of the SCCA Steering committee. Under Kevin's leadership many positive changes have occurred within the club in the past few years, including:

- The establishment of PASR as a new SCCA club with emphasis on autocross.
- Awarded the prestigious recognition as "midsized region of the year" in 2023 by the National SCCA. (Now classified as a large region)
- Introduction of a Tire Rack Nationals Tour event sponsored autocross event here in Phoenix in February of 2024.

SPEND  
TIME  
VOLUNTEERING

Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth."  
– Muhammad Ali



Written by Brian &amp; KC Miller

Learning styles can significantly influence how an individual approaches and improves their skills in autocrossing, a motorsport that involves navigating a course marked by cones in the fastest time possible. Here are some key learning styles and how they relate to autocrossing:

1. **Visual Learners:** These individuals benefit from visual aids. In autocross, they might excel by studying course maps, watching videos or watching tutorial videos or observing experienced drivers. Visual learners can also benefit from analyzing their own driving footage to identify areas for improvement. *See – Dissect – Do better by watching!*

2. **Auditory Learners:** These learners grasp concepts better through listening. They may find value in verbal instructions from coaches or discussions with other drivers. Listening to podcasts or attending seminars about driving techniques can also enhance their understanding of autocross strategies. *Listen – Assimilate – Do better by thinking it through.*

3. **Kinesthetic Learners:** Hands-on experience is crucial for kinesthetic learners. In autocross, they thrive by practicing driving techniques and getting feedback in real-time. They might prefer to jump into their cars and practice various maneuvers rather than spending too much time on theory. *Do – Try – Fail – Do better by doing and redoing.*

4. **Read/Write Learners:** These individuals learn best through reading and writing. They might benefit from studying the rules and strategies of autocross, taking notes during events, or writing reflections on their driving experiences. They may also find it useful to read books or articles related to driving techniques. *Read – Run – Take notes – Re-run!*

5. **Social Learners:** Social or interpersonal learners thrive in group settings. They may benefit from participating in autocross events with friends or joining clubs where they can share experiences and learn from others. Observing and discussing techniques with fellow drivers can enhance their learning. *Come with a friend – Make a friend or two – Create friendly competition.*

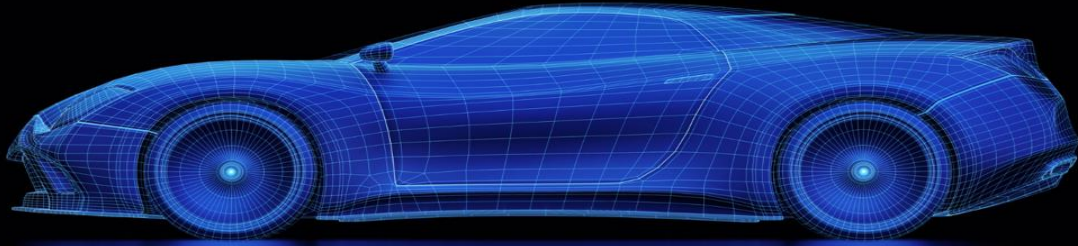
6. **Solitary Learners:** These learners prefer to work independently. They may analyze their performance alone, study driving techniques in solitude, or practice by themselves to refine their skills without distractions. *Show up – Shut up – Speed up!*

Understanding these learning styles can help drivers tailor their practice and improvement strategies in autocrossing, leading to better performance and a more enjoyable experience. By recognizing your preferred learning methods, autocrossers can make the most of their training and develop their driving skills effectively.

***Tell me and I forget; teach me and I remember most of it; involve me and I never forget.***  
- Benjamin Franklin

# PYLON QUIZ

## Top Aerodynamic Vehicles ... or NOT!



Which **one** of the vehicles listed below has the poorest aerodynamic drag coefficient, yet is known for its sleek designs and impressive performance?

1. **Audi A4:** The A4 features a drag coefficient of around 0.27, thanks to its streamlined design and attention to aerodynamic details.
2. **BMW i8:** The hybrid sports car boasts a drag coefficient of about 0.26. Its futuristic design not only looks stunning but also helps it slice through the air effectively.
3. **Bugatti Chiron:** While primarily known for its raw power, the Chiron also has impressive aerodynamics with a drag coefficient of around 0.38, helping it reach incredible speeds.
4. **Chevy Corvette C8** has a drag coefficient of around 0.32, which is quite competitive for a sports car. This low coefficient helps enhance speed and fuel efficiency.
5. **Ford F-150 Pick-up:** Known for its fuel efficiency and overall dependability, the aerodynamic rating is approximately 0.35
6. **Honda Insight:** This hybrid model achieves a drag coefficient of about 0.25, making it efficient in both design and fuel consumption.
7. **Mercedes-Benz EQS:** With a drag coefficient of around 0.20, the EQS is one of the most aerodynamic production cars, designed for electric efficiency and performance.
8. **Porsche 911 (992 generation):** The latest 911 models have been optimized for aerodynamics, achieving a drag coefficient of around 0.29, which helps improve performance and fuel efficiency.
9. **Tesla Model S:** This electric sedan features a drag coefficient of approximately 0.208, combining luxury with groundbreaking aerodynamics to enhance range and efficiency.
10. **Toyota Prius:** Known for its eco-friendly credentials, the Prius has a drag coefficient of about 0.25, contributing to its fuel efficiency and hybrid technology.

ANSWER: The Bugatti Chiron is one of the fastest series production car the French luxury brand has ever made, able to reach a top speed of 264 mph. This performance is the product of many technological enhancements and optimizations, often listing for over \$2.9 Million. Boosting it has 1479 hp, it is known as the "hyper car"! Only about 40 Bugatti Chirons are built annually. Interesting enough, its aerodynamic coefficient is higher than the other cars listed. **SOURCE: Carbuzz.com**