

Frank Hawley's Drag Racing School's Houston Super Class Played Host to Some Super Special Students



After a quarter-century of driver training and more than twenty thousand graduates, Frank Hawley's Drag Racing School continues to provide students from all backgrounds numerous ways to improve and sharpen their skills, both on and off the track.

One of the school's most popular programs is the Two-Day Super Class in which a driver can earn their NHRA competition license in the school's Super Comp Dragster or Super Gas Firebird, with some students leaving the experience with both.

Learning the proper driving techniques are not the only skills that Hawley provides during the Super Class, there is also rather in-depth mental training that he teaches during the classroom portion, which is what many new comers to the sport look forward to obtaining as well as those who attend Hawley's classes that are considered veteran drivers.

One such veteran driver had been looking forward to attending Hawley's classroom for well over a year.

Texas based Frankie "Mad Man" Taylor is a well respected competitor on not only the ADRL [American Drag Racing League] tour but also the Texas Outlaw Pro Mod Association, where he currently has a strangle hold on the number one position in points. Taylor is also the current record holder for the Quickest Doorslammer in the World, a mark he made when posting a 3.607 during the ADRL event held at Virginia Motorsports Park earlier this year.

Taylor, who in addition to driving also tunes both his and his teammate's Pro Mod at each event, was looking to Hawley for help with dealing with the constant distractions one can have in a situation such as his and felt Hawley's clinic, held as part of the Two-Day Super Class, was just the ticket. He was finally able to attend the class during its most recent stop at Houston Raceway Park, in Baytown, Texas.

"You can really never be as good you as you always want to be," Taylor said of his choice to attend Hawley's class. "Even as a mechanic or technician, you are always getting more training and that's what I wanted to do as a driver. I wish I would have taken Frank's class a long time ago. It was great and I really feel it helped me."

While there were veteran racers, such as Taylor, in the class, more often you will find drivers looking to work with Hawley and earn their NHRA competition license for the very first time, such as Brett Candies.

Candies, whose father is of the Candies and Hughes fame, also attended the Houston class in June. His brother, Paul Jr., a recent Hawley School graduate and now wheeling his new Cobra Jet in NHRA Super Stock, helped Brett get "bit by the bug" and wanting to join in on the racing fun.

"As soon as I stood next to his new car, it bit me," Candies said of his new desire to get in the driver's seat.

Candies, who spent numerous summers growing up at drag strips all across the county, was really impressed with Hawley and the entire Super Class experience.

“Frank really takes the whole aspect of going fast out of the picture or equation and tells you that if you want to be good at it, this is what needs to happen,” he explained. “The class really puts into perspective how important the mental side is to be good at it. Not just got down the track fast and say you had fun.”

A rabid motorsports fan, Candies had previously participated in many other types of racing schools and put Hawley and his Super Class program right at the top.

“I thoroughly enjoyed the way Frank runs the classroom compared to all the other types of schools and how he gets into the mental aspect and how prepared you need to be as a driver,” he said. “It’s so important in this type of racing. The only other class I’ve been through that takes it to even being close to the level Frank does is the Bondurant School and that is a road course class.”

“No other class or school that I have been through compares to Frank’s,” he added.

Newly NHRA licensed Candies looks forward to teaming up with his brother Paul when he will soon start driving his Dodge Challenger in Stock.

“The Challenger should be ready to go by the time the NHRA points meet comes up here in September,” he smiled. “So the two of us should start having some real fun together her shortly.”

Frank Hawley’s Drag Racing School offers classes year-round at numerous NHRA National Event facilities all across the county. The Super Class will be offered one more time for 2010 at Houston Raceway Park September 14 and 15. Seats are limited in the school’s Dragster and Firebird as well as the openings for Classroom Only and Bring Your Own Car programs.

For more information on these and all other programs offered at Frank Hawley’s Drag Racing School, visit the school’s website – www.frankhawley.com or call 866-480-7223, Outside the US 678-804-8835.