



Über Alles

Porsche Club of America, Western Michigan Region

Let's Get Together:
October Fall Color Tour
2017 Planning Meeting
November Dinner Drive

Tech Spalte:
Automotive Restoration -
Final Thoughts

In Review:
WMP Grattan HPDE
September Dinner Drives



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IGNITION

OCTOBER, 2016

NOVEMBER PLANNING MEETING

HOST: WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION PORSCHE CLUB

Come join us for the Annual Planning Meeting on Monday, November 7 from 6pm - 9pm at the Bistro Bella Vita in Grand Rapids. The meeting is open for anyone wishing to organize an activity or become an active member of the Board. We'll enjoy good food while discussing our 2017 event plans.



Please RSVP by November 1 via E-Mail: mbkmd9198@charter.net



FUELED BY VOLUNTEERS

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Über Alles

Porsche Club of America, Western Michigan Region

On the cover:
Lighthouse to Lighthouse
2015 Fall Color Tour, Traverse City
Photo by Amber Door

PEAK EXPERIENCE

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Mike Karluk
President,
Western Michigan Region

Heartfelt thanks to Ted Blacklidge, Amber Door, Jerry Arens, Colin Carpenter, Eric and Lina Spross, Craig Ackerman, Michael Betz and all the others who organized and supervised yet another fantastic HPDE weekend at Grattan Raceway last month. Though a few deluges cleared the track briefly on Saturday afternoon, there was no dampening the spirits of the 54 drivers who drove a stunning array of 36 Porsches and other marques including Audi R8, Corvette, Camaro, Mustang, Acura NSX, BMW, Subaru, and Honda. I'm writing ahead of the September Dinner Drive and Peter Stott's UP Drive, but anticipate hearing great things about them.

I had my third Porsche peak experience this year at Grattan. Peak experience is "a term coined by Abraham Maslow to characterize a profound moment in a person's life, an instance when they feel in harmony with all things, clear, spontaneous, independent, and alert and often with relatively little awareness of time and space," though when driving on the track, one is always aware of time and space. My first automotive peak experience was the feeling of agility of a BMW 2002tii in the mid-70s. The second was the wondrous braking power of a 996 C4S during my first DE at Gingerman in 2009. The third was the acceleration of a 996 Turbo. The fourth occurred in my first track outing with the Cayman GT4, which recalled the relative agility of the 2002tii, but with confidence-inspiring stability of an entirely different level. The lightness and precision of the steering of the GT4 had an old-school feel and reminded me of the only other Porsche I've had the pleasure of driving, an '86 Targa.



The President in his Cayman GT4 entering the front straight at Grattan

Autumn is upon us and the frenetic pace of spring and summer WMR/PCA activities has slowed. Our second Street Survival driving program for teens and young adults will be held in the parking lot of the 5/3 Ballpark on Sunday, 10/9/16. See the wmr.pca.org website for more information. The Annual Planning Meeting will be on Monday, November 7 at the Bistro Bella Vita in Grand Rapids and is open for anyone wishing to organize an activity or become an active member of the Board. We are looking for event hosts for 2017.

See you soon!

-Mike

ACCESS THE MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES ON OUR WEBSITE.
[HTTP://WMR.PCA.ORG/MINUTES/MINUTES.HTM](http://wmr.pca.org/minutes/minutes.htm)



We're looking for event hosts for 2017

Simply stop by our Monthly Board Meeting, or contact our WMRPCA Social Events Coordinator, Lynne Olenyk, with your event ideas. Lynne will help you work through the details and make your event a success. E-Mail: lynniemarie@charter.net · Phone: (616) 710-0122



TIRE RACK STREET SURVIVAL

HOSTS: DONALD SAZAMA AND WMR PCA / BMW CCA



Nothing but home runs at 5/3 Ballpark on Sunday October 9th!

We are again hosting the Tire Rack Street Survival school this year. Last year was a success and we hope to have twenty students this year.

If you know of a teen driver that could benefit from some great driving instruction, please direct them to the street survival website (www.StreetSurvival.org).

We can always use more volunteer help. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Don Sazama at dsazama@pioneersteel.us

Thank You! Don Sazama

When: Sunday 10/09/2016
from 8:00AM – 4:30PM

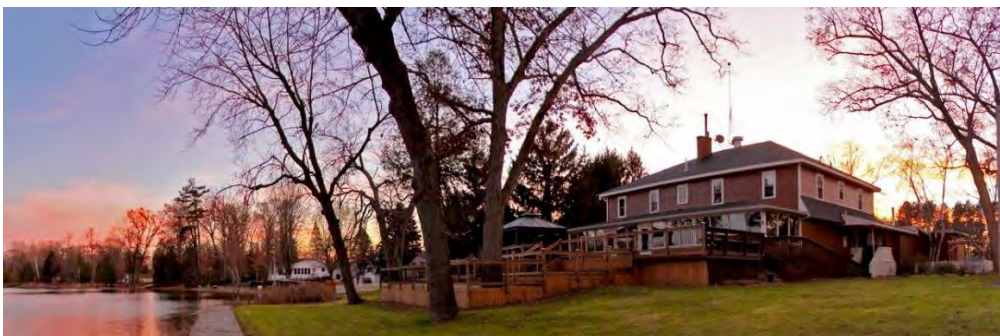
Where: Fifth Third Ballpark
4500 West River Drive
Comstock Park, MI 49321



2016 COLOR TOUR LUNCH DRIVE

HOSTS: TED & GABI BLACKLIDGE

There's nothing much better than to wind your Porsche through the countryside, enjoy beautiful fall scenery and meet friends for a casual lunch. Join our hosts Ted and Gabi Blacklidge for a spirited 45-minute drive then lunch on the lakeside at Clifford Lake Inn located in Stanton, MI where culinary trained chefs create the perfect dining experience, using the freshest local ingredients...and you never know, you may run into "Ed" and "Megan", the two apparitions that roam through the lakeside eatery!



Please RSVP by October 12: Ted & Gabi Blacklidge, gabriele4143@yahoo.com, or (616) 635-7997

When: Saturday, October 15, 2016
12:00pm to gather and sign wavers.
We leave at 12:15 sharp.

Where: Meet at Tractor Supply, 4011 - 17 Mile Road, Cedar Springs, MI 49319

Destination: Clifford Lake Inn, 561 Clifford Lake Drive, Stanton, MI 48888, (989) 831-5151

2016 WMR PCA GRATTAN HPDE RECAP

BY GABI BLACKLIDGE · PHOTOS BY WOLFGANG BUBECK, AMBER DOOR, MIKE MURPHY & LINA SPROSS



The fifty four drivers in this year's Western Michigan Region High Performance Driver's Education event at Grattan Raceway experienced a full complement of fall weather conditions - warm, cool, wet, dry. Fourteen new drivers received expert training from Terry Schieble and his team of instructors. This is an excellent event to develop or hone your driving skills with a track-ready vehicle. Porsches desired, but not required!



Terry Schieble (left) surveys the new crop of Students with Grid Meister Craig Paull (right).

Thank you to the Grattan Committee: Craig Ackerman, Michael Betz, Colin Carpenter, Amber Door, Craig Paull, Rick Riley, Terry Shieble, Eric and Lina Spross, and our helpful volunteers. We receive many favorable comments from our participants. It is all due to you!

Thank you especially to our drivers. Without your participation, this event would not be as successful. Your thoughtfulness on and off the track has made this a safe, enjoyable event for everyone. Additionally, your contributions to our charity, Feeding America West Michigan, has raised \$1260. This donation can feed 60 families of four for a week!



Grattan Raceway is one of the most interesting tracks in the country, with a quarter mile straightaway and exciting twists and turns. When the DE date is announced after the first of the year, SAVE THE DATE! The weather is always just right.



Safety First!

Saturday's rainy afternoon did not include lightening, so on the track they went. Everyone learned valuable lessons for maneuvering their cars on wet pavement. Much appreciation to Craig Paull and Colin Carpenter, who endured on the grid, despite being soaked

from the knees down from inadequate umbrella coverage. That's dedication to safety.

Drivers on Sunday experienced one of Michigan's beautiful fall days. The talented new drivers were signed off and quickly ascended in grouping levels. We'll be ready for 15 new students in 2017.



IN REVIEW: SEPTEMBER DINNER DRIVE

BY AMBER DOOR · PHOTOS BY AMBER DOOR



The 24 participants of the short notice September Drive were treated to a beautiful, sun soaked September day to enjoy the roads of northern and west central Ottawa County as we made our way to the Salt & Pepper Savory Grill and Pub in Holland, MI for lunch.

We also had the pleasure of welcoming members James Brown and Andrea Boot on their first WMR tour! When we arrived at the restaurant we were greeted by Porsches already in the parking lot as we met up with 8 more WMR members who, although were not able to take advantage of the group drive, were able to join us for some great company and food.



James & Andrea socializing with WMR PCA Member Raeni Conner (left)





Lessons from a Pro, Rick Riley



Students walking the track to learn how to drive on the track



On your mark, get set...GO!



...And he wins by a nose in the rain



Learning the twists & turns of Grattan



Oops!



Watching is just as fun as driving...almost



WMR HPDE Chief Instructor Terry Schieble



Colin Carpenter (left) & Craig Paull (right) work the Grid

AROUND THE ZONE

BY MICHAEL SORIANO, ZONE 4 REPRESENTATIVE



Michael Soriano
Zone 4 Representative,
Porsche Club of America

Greeting PCA Zone 4 Members,

Over the past few months, I have traveled extensively throughout the zone attending a multitude of outstanding events affording me the opportunity to interact with a number of PCA members. I recently attended Eastern Buckeye Region's Wine Mill Dinner, where a large group of members met in a private party room at a rustic mill converted into a wine bar for appetizers, dinner, and wine tasting after a scenic drive. I also participated

in Northern Ohio Region's bi-annual Garage Tour. This hugely popular day-long event took us throughout Northeast Ohio to view 6 remarkable garages containing collections of amazing cars and concluded with dinner.

After traveling to MORPCA's HPDE at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS) last year to attend meetings, I was



able to participate this year. The outstanding 3-day event is still the only one of its kind permitted at IMS, and included 2 receptions, one in a pavilion located near the iconic

Pagoda and another in the Hall of Fame Museum. There were around 250 participants from all over the country, with a large group from throughout Zone 4.

I had a wonderful time at Southeast Michigan Region's Down River BBQ. The food and drinks were abundant and excellently prepared, and I thoroughly enjoyed talking with the attendees. On a beautiful Friday evening, I attended Michiana and Central Indiana regions' Porsches 2 Warsaw event, which consisted of a car show and a fantastic dinner buffet at a local farm to table restaurant. I have met so many wonderful PCA members during my visits to the regions since becoming Zone 4 Representative, and I look forward to meeting many more as I continue to travel throughout the zone.

With the arrival of autumn, a number of regions have scheduled Fall Color Tours to take advantage of this beautiful time of year. In addition, there are still a few more DEs available for those who want another opportunity to spend some time on the track, and there are always terrific social events to attend.

It is also the time of year when regions are sending out a call for candidates for their upcoming elections of officers and board members. This is a great way to get more involved and help make your region even stronger. There are other ways to become more involved such as chairing a committee, hosting an event, volunteering at an event, writing an article for the region newsletter, or taking pictures at events for the region's website or Facebook page. Consider sharing your talents, and know that your

assistance is not only needed, but is greatly appreciated as well.

Please remember to check your in boxes, region's newsletter and website, as well as the Zone 4 website <http://zone4.pca.org> for the most up to date information about events available to you. Also, consider attending other regions' events, such as:

- October 8-9 is Central Indiana Region's Pumpkin Run DE at Putnam Park
- Western Michigan Region is hosting a Teen Street Survival School at 5/3 Ballpark on October 9
- October 12 is Michiana Region's Business Meeting at Dandino's Supper Club in Goshen
- Maumee Valley Region's Business Meeting is October 13 at Vin Devers
- Plan to attend Ohio Valley Region's DE at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course October 14-16
- October 15 is Eastern Buckeye Region's Golftoberfest Event
- Rally Sport Region's Annual Fall Color Tour is October 15
- October 15-16 is Northern Ohio Region's Trip to the Motor City
- Join Southeast Michigan Region's Fall Color Tour on October 16
- October 20 is Allegheny Region's Couples' Social and Cooking Class
- Mid-Ohio Region's 3rd Thursday event is October 20 in Powell
- October 22 is Motor-Stadt Region's Fall Color Tour

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at MSoriano.ZoneRep@gmail.com

Thanks, — *Michael*





2016 EVENT CALENDAR

WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

| | | | | |
|------------|-------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| OCT | 10-03 | Monthly Board Meeting | Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI | WMR PCA Club |
| | 10-09 | Teen Street Survival | Fifth Third Ballpark, Grand Rapids | WMR PCA / BMW CCA |
| | 10-15 | October Fall Color Tour | Clifford Lake Inn, Stanton, MI | Ted & Gabi Blacklidge |
| NOV | 11-07 | Annual Planning Dinner | Bistro Bella Via, Grand Rapids, MI | WMR PCA Club |
| | 11-12 | November Dinner Drive | Main Street Pub, Allendale, MI | Randy & Lin Portoluri |
| DEC | 12-03 | December Appetizer Party | West Olive, MI | Mike & Barbara Karluk |
| | 12-05 | Monthly Board Meeting | Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI | WMR PCA Club |

IN REVIEW: SEPTEMBER UP DRIVE

BY: PETER STOTT · PHOTOS BY PETER STOTT

Twelve cars made the trip to the Upper Peninsula with visits to locations including Gand Marais, Marquette, Pictured Rocks, Copper Harbor and Tahquamenon Falls. The group stayed at the wonderful Landmark Inn in Marquette and ventured to either Copper Harbor or Pictured Rocks. What started off as a VERY rainy drive ended up as a beautiful couple of days of touring and sightseeing. Some significant Porsche miles were covered: 623 miles for those doing the trip with tour of Pictured Rocks, 915 miles covered by the group doing the trip to Copper Harbor...Brian and Deb Boyle got the distance award of 1,069 as they made the trip from their Chicago home.



For more PCA National and Inter-Regional events, visit: <https://www.pca.org/events>

NOVEMBER DINNER DRIVE

HOSTS: RANDY & LIN PORTOLURI

Once again by popular request Randy and Lin Portoluri will host a dinner at the Main Street Pub in Allendale on November 12; fellowship and dinner will start at 5:00pm. The Main Street Pub has a wide variety of excellent food and a full bar. It is personally one of our favorite lunch spots.

As with most November meetings, there is no actual drive. Weather permitting, drive your Porsche as we were so lucky to do last year.

Please RSVP by November 8 via phone (616) 842-9266 or e-mail rportoluri66@charter.net.



When: Saturday, November 12, 2016 at 5:00pm

Where: Main Street Pub
11240 University Parkway (off M45 west of 48th)
Allendale, MI 49401
(616) 895-1234

For the full PCA Club Racing Schedule, visit: <https://www.pca.org/club-racing>



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" After 27,000 miles of Michigan driving and 18 DE track days at Grattan and Gingerman, our beloved 2007 Porsche 911 Turbo was brought back to showroom appearance by Great Lakes Chemical. It looks almost better than new. A big thanks to Terry and Curt for the outstanding job."

- Ted and Gabriele Blackledge

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Contributed by WMR PCA member
Tim Thatcher, ASE-Certified Master Technician
and Owner, Euro Autowerks

While many restoration tasks can be completed in a day or two by competent and experienced technicians, there are numerous tasks that take more time. In many instances, it can take weeks to locate, purchase and receive parts that need to be replaced.

Throw an engine together in a day? I've never met a customer who is spending thousands of dollars for a restoration, who wanted me to throw an engine together in a day. I assure you, if one did, I would suggest they take their car somewhere else.

Another time consuming item is providing a finish that makes the owner proud. A great finish takes time; as noted in last month's article. Hours and sometimes days of body restoration, sanding, priming, sanding, painting and buffing is necessary to produce a quality finish.



Asking for a quick restoration is silly as asking your heart surgeon to complete your by-pass surgery in 10 minutes or for your barber to complete your haircut in 60 seconds. Restoring a vehicle to new or better than new condition, is a matter of people taking pride in what they do. So relax and let them make you proud.

That's all for now, our summer is gone and fall is upon us. The autumn season is a very beautiful time to take casual rides through the country side, before the winds of winter arrive. Drive safely and enjoy your car.

-Tim



AUTOMOTIVE RESTORATION FINAL THOUGHTS

Being the car buffs that we are, I'm confident that each of us has at one time or another watched one of the many car restoration programs on television. While these programs are interesting to watch, they leave a lot out of the picture and end up sending the wrong message to the viewers. Leading viewers to believe that a car can be restored in such a short a period is the wrong message! Trust me, it can't be done. It's impossible.



While these programs are certainly not reality, they can be entertaining, and that's exactly what they are, entertainment. It's great to watch a car go together in an hour long program, but one has to remember

that most of the work has been cut and the remaining programing is shown in fast forward.

Another thing that irritates me about these shows is the drama that's played out in each program. In-fighting among the workers is counterproductive, and in a real shop it would not be tolerated. As a shop owner, I find it irritating and a waste of time.

Still, in spite of my dislike for the weekly drama, I find the unrealistic completion time line most annoying. Those of us who professionally restore cars are constantly being questioned as to the time taken to complete a project. It's unfortunate that there are no disclaimers accompanying these programs. Just a few words regarding the truth of restoration would be helpful.

OFFICERS

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Amber Door
Treasurer,
1984 Porsche 911 Coupe

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Mike Karluk
President,
2016 Porsche Cayman GT4

9342 Whispering Sands Dr.
West Olive, MI 49460
mbkmd9198@charter.net



We're looking for a volunteer to become: **Charity Chair**

To solicit, either through direct communication with members, email blasts, website requests or newsletter publications, members' suggestions for reputable non-profit charitable organizations for club support by donations, whether monetary or good and services.

To verify information on charities through public resources.

To bring a proposal before the WMR PCA Executive Board at the November Planning Meeting. The Board would vote to approve one or more organizations for one year, to be reevaluated each year.

To promote support of the charities at the various membership events throughout the year.

To provide information on the approved charities, to be published in the WMR newsletter, on the website and any other appropriate social media venues.

To work with the Treasurer for year-end disbursement of funds collected throughout the year.

**Apply via E-Mail: mbkmd9198@charter.net
— or simply stop by our Monthly Board Meeting.**

CHAIRPERSONS · SERVING YOUR CLUB

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References available. Call or e-mail Eric at Professional Car Appearance, LLC, (616) 706-4421 or ericpca911@yahoo.com.

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ADVERTISING RATES:

The ÜBER ALLES magazine is published monthly by the Western Michigan Region of the Porsche Club of America.

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Color: \$105/month
Black & White: \$70/month

1/2 page:

Color: \$70/month
Black & White: \$45/month

1/4 page:

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- Dick & Fran Leonard



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Join me in congratulating these fine folks on their WMR PCA Anniversaries and extend a warm "Willkommen" to our new members and transfers.

THE TAILPIPE

BY L. SPROSS, ÜBER ALLES EDITOR

Glückwünsche! — Anniversaries

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 5 years (2011) | Tim & Sharon Tornnga |
| 15 years (2001) | Daniel Lang |
| 20 years (1996) | Howard & Lori Beck David & Beth Howard |

Willkommen! — New Members & Transfers

Jeffrey Bootzin, Grand Rapids, '00 Boxster
Phillip & Rachael DeZwarte, Kalamazoo, '17 Macan GTS
Bryan Lewis, South Haven, '09 911
Robert Vanlet, Grand Haven, '14 911
Dennis Snyder, Harbor Springs, '04 911 4S
Ward Granger, Allegan, '99 Boxster

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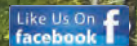
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