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# ÜBER ALLES



http://wmi.pca.org

August 2008

## This Month's Activities

### AUGUST 2008

- 01-03 Mosport Int'l Raceway  
04 Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM  
08-10 Virginia Int'l Raceway (PCA)
- 09 Family Picnic & Concours -  
Amber Door & Jerry Arens 616)457-  
4515 amdoor242@aol.com
- 09 American LeMans Series -  
Road America  
15-17 VSCDA at Grattan  
22-23 28th Street Metro Cruise
- 23 Saunter to the Shore - Barry &  
Candis Collick (269)345-2488  
cblick@iserv.net
- 23 Michiana IROC - Tire Rack  
24 Michiana Autocross - Tire Rack  
30-01 ALMS - Detroit Sports Car  
Challenge (PCA)  
30-01 Road America -  
Elkhart Lake, WS (PCA)

## Officers

### President: Ted Blacklidge

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### V. President: Daniel Phillips

2676 Briarwood Court SE  
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### Treasurer: Amber Door

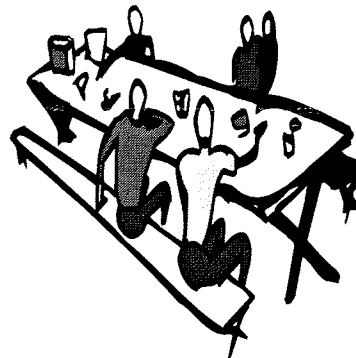
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### Secretary: Brenda Hildon

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blue911rsr@charter.net

## WMR PCA Family Picnic and Topside Concours Saturday, August 9, 2008

Join your fellow Porsche Enthusiasts for a day of fun, food and Porsche finery. The event will be held at the "The Barn" located on the grounds of Covenant Community Church 4276 Baldwin Rd. in Hudsonville.



Car prep can begin as early as 10:00 for those who wish to participate in the Concours event and earn some bragging rights. You do not have to be a "clean freak" or have a "garage queen" to join in on the fun. Just wash that Porsche beauty and show her off!

We will plan to eat around 12:00. Grilled chicken, burgers, beverages and tableware will be provided. Bring a lawn chair and a dish to pass or \$5.00 per person if you want to come empty handed.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, August 5 to help us plan for the grill items.

If you have any questions give us a call.

Amber Door & Jerry Arens [Amdoor242@aol.com](mailto:Amdoor242@aol.com)  
616 457-4515 (home) 616 340-0971 (cell)

# Upcoming Events

Monthly Meetings will occur at 7PM at Delta Imports, 6025 28th St. SE Grand Rapids, 49546

## 2008

**WELCOME TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR PORSCHE CLUB!**

### SEPTEMBER 2008

07 WMR PCA IROC at Ionia  
TJ Thatcher (616)914-9721  
timthatcher@haroldzeigler.com

08 Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM

13 Michiana Autocross - Tire Rack

19-21 GRAND PRIX OF GRATTAN -  
DRIVER'S EDUCATION EVENT  
Ted Blacklidge (616)866-4143  
sgrafex@chartermi.net

19-21 VSCDA Elkhart Lake  
Vintage Festival  
Road America, WS

27 Dinner Drive - Paul & Renee Krapp

**We are thrilled to announce the birth of  
Alyssa Joy and Ezekiel Robert to  
Bob and Carol Friday on June 2, 2008**



**Awww - Anyone up for babysitting?!?  
Do they make Porsche Prams?**

### OCTOBER 2008

06 Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM

TBA Dinner Drive - Fall Color  
Tour - Duane & Brenda Weed  
(231) 937-4867  
duane@dwvideo.com

Photos courtesy of Bob Friday

### NOVEMBER 2008

03 Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM - 2008  
*Event Planning Meeting*

12 Dinner Drive - Dave & Kris Reid  
(616)957-1498 dreid@comcast.net

### DECEMBER 2008

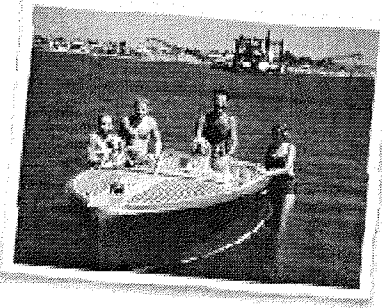
01 Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM

13 Dinner Drive - Appetizer Party -  
Greg & Lee Koning (269) 624-1741  
gregkono@yahoo.com

### WEST MICHIGAN REGION AUTOCROSS

Plan to buzz on over to the Ionia Fairgrounds on **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7** for our **WMR IROC** Autocross. Directions: Take I-96 east or west to exit M-66 North. The fairgrounds are approx 5 miles north – just follow the signs - and the river on your left. Bring a helmet (or one will be provided) and experience the thrill of driving your car in competition against other drivers in your class, through an enclosed racecourse of cones for accuracy and time. Registration runs from 8:30-9:30am. Novices (first-timers) will be able to get instruction from experienced autocrossers starting at 10:00. Start time for the event will be 11:00am. Contact IROC Chairman, TJ Thatcher, at 616-914-9721 or Ted Blacklidge, 616-866-4143 [sgrafex@chartermi.net](mailto:sgrafex@chartermi.net)

# Upcoming Events



## Saunter to the Shore!

Don't you just love this time of year? Time to relax, time to hang out with friends on the deck – cocktail in hand, time to get out the Porsche and just meander through the countryside. It's what summer is all about – kicking back and just taking life in. And that is the point of our August Dinner Drive – time to just **Saunter to the Shore** with fellow enthusiasts!

August is a time for driving and exploring beyond your own backyard. So with exploring in mind, we once again started searching for something new and exciting to add to the Event Calendar. But you know what? We just couldn't improve on last year! Boatwerks – and the saunter there – were so real received by everyone we decided to repeat the whole venue one more time. So get ready to relax and have fun on this year's **Saunter to the Shore!**

We are once more headed someplace truly special – **Boatwerks** on the waterfront in Holland!

The theme at **Boatwerks** is classic vintage motorboats of the 40's, 50's and 60's. Names like Chris Craft, Century, Garwood, Hacker Craft. Boats made during the golden age of American craftsmanship. Clean, graceful styling, beautiful varnished mahogany, shiny chrome hardware, and the roar of a fast engine. Boats like these are still in use on Lake Macatawa, and some are still being made the time honored way right here in the area.

The approach at the restaurant is similar to these vintage and modern classics: buy the best ingredients, use time tested methods and expert craftsmanship, avoid shortcuts, trends and fads. Simple, honest cooking and friendly, efficient service in a clean, comfortable environment is their goal. We can't wait to share it with you!

**Hosts: Candis and Barry Collick** 269-345-2488 or [cblick@iserv.net](mailto:cblick@iserv.net)

**You must RSVP for this event** – we will have a private parking area set aside just for our group along with an area in Boatwerks where we can be "clustered" together. So mark your calendar, give us a call or email and get on the list.

**When: Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**4:00 PM** Meet at the Overisel Lumber Company parking lot in Douglas, just off of the 196 exit 36 ramp to get registered for the drive.

***We will depart at 4:30PM SHARP!*** You really don't want to miss the drive – like last year you will be given a map which gives reference to historical and hysterical landmarks along the way. And yes – I did make a new map! There are so many things to see on the way I just couldn't squeeze them all on one page last year! We will be following the coast, avoiding the highways and exploring the possibilities on our way to a fabulous dinner @ Boatwerks!

**5:00 PM:** Cocktails in the lounge at Boatwerks Waterfront Restaurant 216 Van Raalte Ave Holland, MI

**5:30 PM:** Group seated for dinner. Order off the menu. Separate checks. No calculator or sharp pencils required!

COME ENJOY THIS SPECIAL EVENING WITH SPECIAL FRIENDS

**CLUB MINUTES: JULY**

Delta Imports – Meeting was called to order by President Ted Blacklidge at 7pm. Members present were: Ted and Gabi Blacklidge, Dan Phillips, Amber Door, Jerry Arens, Brenda Hildon, Rick Riley, Kurt Wirth, and Colin Carpenter.

**Minutes:** Approved.

**Treasurers Report:** Approved.

**Webmaster:** The website is updated every two weeks. Michael hasn't purchased the new software yet.

**Membership:** Primary Members: 264. Affiliate Members: 211. New Members: Jeremy & Julie Nelson, Sand Lake – 79 911SC, Mark Sellers, Grand Rapids – 08 911T. Transfers in: Jovan Javanovic, Ada – 89 911T. 6 Non renewals, 17 Renewals.

**Advertising:** 1-2 full page ads would cover the cost of 4 more pages in the Uber.

**Uber:** Nothing new to report.

**Insurance:** Insurance is set for the ALMS at The Score Dinner Drive.

**Driving Events:**

Online Registration update: 23 to-date. Tech form is complete and will be available electronically and will be mailed with welcome packet.

Grattan Committee meeting: The first committee meeting will be held July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Gingerman SEM Club race: There were 53 racers, and 25 DE participants

**Old Business:**

Spring up to Traverse: Great turnout – wonderful time had by all. Photos on the website. Next year's event will be hosted by David and Beth Howard.

Porsche Parade: Attended by Ted & Gabi Blacklidge, Dan & Ren Phillips, Jerry Arens & Amber Door, Kurt & Mary Kettlehut, Phil & Sue Bohlander, Ed & Sandy Scott, Tim & Dee Kasberger. A wonderful event! Be sure to ask Dan about the flat tire that occurred during the Gimmick Rally.

**New Business:**

Gimmick Rally: Hosted by Ted & Gabi Blacklidge, July 26 – details in the Uber and on the web.

ALMS at The Score: Hosted by Dan & Ren Phillips, July 20 (note date change). Details in the Uber and on the website.

Nametags: Ted presented a mock-up of a name tag design. Initial discussion was favorable and the price of \$5 per tag was mentioned with proceeds to go to charity. More discussion to follow.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectively submitted by Brenda Hildon

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## CHARITY OPPORTUNITY

This is your chance to promote and collect donations for your favorite Charity! The Grattan DE event is looking for volunteers to help on Saturday and Sunday, September 20, 21 from 8:00am until 1:30pm. As in the past, we have a need for volunteers to provide their choice of breakfast items for both mornings and to promote their Charity and collect Touring donations at noon.

Applications for Charities will be approved by the WMR Board.

Please contact Ted Blacklidge at [sgrafex@chartermi.net](mailto:sgrafex@chartermi.net) or call (616) 866-4143 for further information.

## Chairpersons

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616 457-4515  
[flybox911@aol.com](mailto:flybox911@aol.com)

**Dinner Drive.....Sunday, July 20, 2008**  
**ALMS / Acura Sports Car Challenge at The Score**  
*Contributed by Dan Phillips*

A group of about 20 Porsche enthusiasts gathered on Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at The Score sports bar and restaurant, just northeast of Grand Rapids, to watch the 2008 Acura Sports Car Challenge ALMS race.



The event was preceded by a “spirited” drive through the beautiful tree-lined winding roads of nearby Cannon, Ada, and Plainfield townships. Meeting at picturesque Townsend Park in Cannonsburg, seven Porsches enjoyed some shade while the drivers and navigators enjoyed some coffee and conversation. Even some out-of-towners joined the morning drive, including a Muskegon contingent of Jerry King in his white 964 Speedster and Jim and Ardis Schaaf in their midnight blue Cayman, as well as John and Marshall Walters in their silver 911 SC from Allegan County. A new member, Jeremy Nelson of Sand Lake, joined us with his heavily modified '79 911 with a 930 widebody coupe, slant-nose, and an engine tweaked with cams, exhaust, and other mods. Once underway, our drivers discovered (or re-discovered) some great roads for driving their Porsches on, such as Bailey Drive near Vergennes in Ada, or the stretch of Michigan Street between Crahen Ave and Grand River Drive.

Several other enthusiasts met the driving crowd later at The Score, located at 5301 Northland Drive, Grand Rapids, MI. NBC Sports broadcast a tape-delayed recording of Saturday’s ALMS race from Mid-Ohio, while ABC Sports broadcast the IRL race live from the same track. Lucas Luhr in an Audi R10 took first overall, while the Penske Porsche RS Spyder driven by Romain Dumas took top honors in LMP2. Ferrari beat Porsche by 1:04.135 in GT2.

Fun was had by all, including Ren Phillips, who showed Rick Riley how to make a “Red Dog” by pouring beer into her Bloody Mary.....

All this on a Sunday?..... Hey, it was after 12:00.....



## Classified Ads



### 971 PORSCHE 911T TARGA:

Appraised class 2 collector car. Black on Black. CA car never has seen winter. All service records. Recaro Seats, Monza Exhaust, top in Exc. Condition. All #'s match. Ya gotta see it!! \$15,000.00.  
Call Burt: 1-810-523-4088

### HEATED (limited) OR UNHEATED

**SPACE** for your car. Unheated storage is \$200 for 5 months (\$40/month). For more information, call Bob or Carol Friday (PCA members for over 15 years) at (616) 863-9395 or email: [bfriday@chartermi.net](mailto:bfriday@chartermi.net)

**PARTS FOR SALE 944-** Control Arms, complete exhaust system with catalytic converter, brake rotors, calipers, torsion bars, coil over springs 400 lb, design 90 wheels 7 & 8 x 16 inch, CV joints with new boots, oil coolers, steering wheel with air bag. 911- (930) complete exhaust system with exchangers, oil lines, lower front clip with driving lights ( black ) , transmission gear set (1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>), turbo charger, inter-cooler, shift lever, old style head lights. Parts are from 1989 944S2 and 1986 911/930 and pricing is negotiable. Call Craig Ackerman at 616-866-1905 or [pcaackerman@aol.com](mailto:pcaackerman@aol.com).

**2001 PORSCHE 911 TURBO:** Arctic Silver Metallic, black leather interior. Perfect condition. 3400 miles. Navigation system, heated seats, 6 CD changer. First 2001 Turbo in West Michigan. \$83,036. Please call Greg at (231) 780-0102 or cell phone (231) 740-1077.

### FREE FERODO DOT4 RACING

**BRAKE FLUID:** Three 500ml bottles still sealed. Pay only for shipping \$8 for Priority Mail) or pick up free in Kzoo area. (Not recommended for normal road use) Call or email: Brady at (269)544-0286 or [brady.harnish@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brady.harnish@sbcglobal.net).

### SET OF 4 FUCHS TRACK

**WHEELS & TIRES:** 8 x 16" and 9 x 16" from a 911 turbo, will also fit 944 turbo and 911. Yokohama Advant 032R soft tires 225x50-ZR-16 and 245x45 ZR-16 with good tread remaining. \$900. Just trying to clean out the garage.  
Dave Cramer, 616-957-7807 or e-mail [DrDaveCramer@gmail.com](mailto:DrDaveCramer@gmail.com)

### 1999 PORSCHE 911 CARRERA 4 -

Heavily-optioned 996 6-speed manual coupe in gorgeous Midnight Blue Metallic with Space Grey interior. About 64,800 miles. Long options list includes Litronics, PCM nav, PSM stability, full supple leather, full power heated seats, and lots more! This car is in excellent shape cosmetically and mechanically, and shows evidence of careful owners. It has been loved! Now it's your turn...\$31,625. Call Dan at (616) 281-2459, or for more info and pictures of the car visit <http://www.geocities.com/dphil66/Porsche.html>.

*As a service to MIR/PCA members, classified ads for personal items are FREE! They will run for at least three consecutive issues unless other arrangements are made.*

*Commercial and non-club members please remit \$5 per ad per month for Classified Ad Space. (Approx 25 words or less)*

*Please send information and/or checks to Club Treasurer.*



## Welcome New Members!!

Jeremy & Julie Nelson  
Sand Lake  
'79 911sc

Mark Sellers  
Grand Rapids  
'08 911T

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

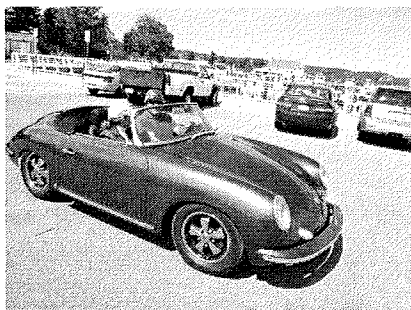
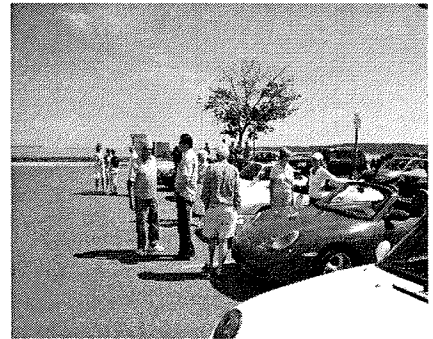
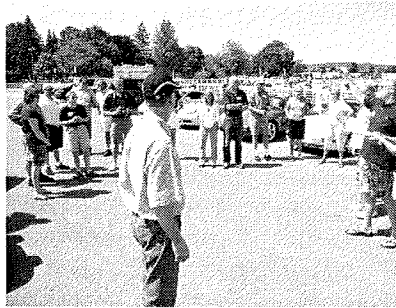
### 5 Years

Kurt & Mary Ellen Kettelhut  
Michael & Constance Lettinga  
Bill Schmidt

### 15 Years

Robert & Deb Pachman

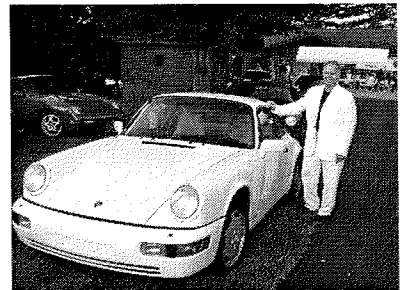
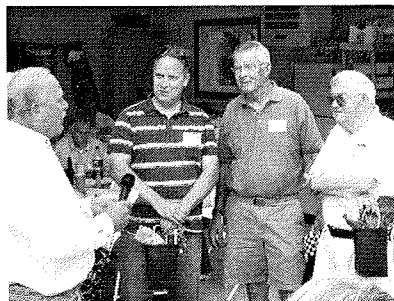
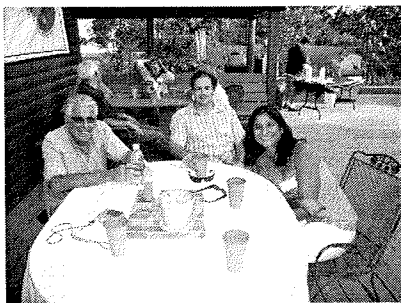
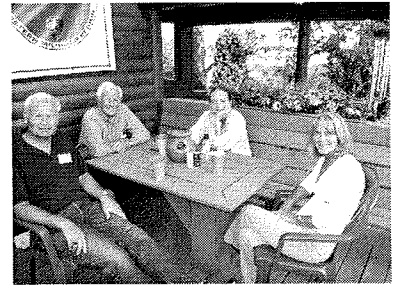
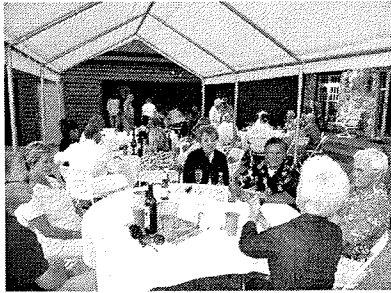
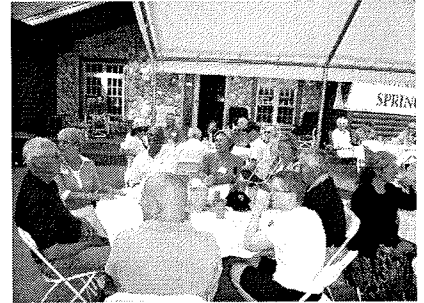
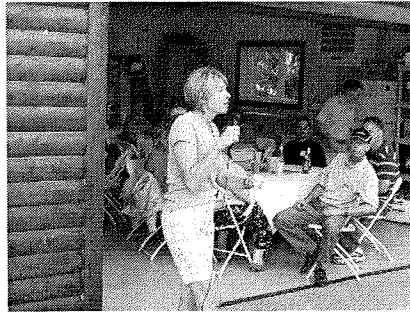
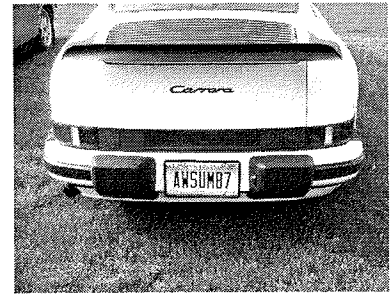
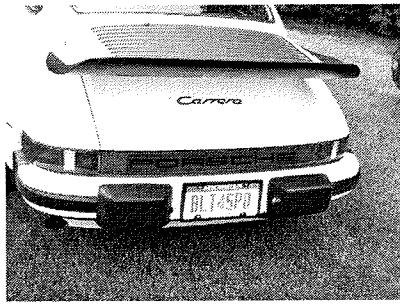
**SCENES FROM SPRING UP TO TRAVERSE, JUNE 2008**  
**HOSTED BY**  
**GREG & KARLENE CURRIE**  
**Dave Howard & Steve Knoll**



**MORE PHOTOS  
 NEXT PAGE AND ON  
 WMR WEBSITE!**









**SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW HOW TO DRIVE?!?**  
**FIND OUT WHAT IT REALLY TAKES AT THE**  
**GRAND PRIX OF GRATTAN DRIVERS' EDUCATION EVENT**  
**SEPTEMBER 19, 20, 21, 2008**

The event is limited to 80 Participants – 15 Novice, 65 Experienced – REGISTER NOW @ [www.clubregistration.net](http://www.clubregistration.net)

Grattan is one of the finest road courses in America. It is located only 20 minutes northeast of Grand Rapids. The 2-mile course is winding, hilly and has a complex assortment of almost every conceivable corner imaginable. The 10 turns include both uphill ascending and descending radius turns, a flat out dog-leg off the 160 degree hair-pin turn, a hidden apex, a Monza bowl, "S" turns, and even a downhill reverse-camber turn. It has been said that if you can master Grattan, you can drive anywhere! It also allows spectators the most viewing surface to watch, with 90% of the racetrack visible from one seat.

If you are new to road courses, you will experience first-hand how to manage your high-performance automobile in a controlled, closed environment and acquire skills that will enhance safer vehicle operation in everyday driving conditions. Each novice will be assigned an instructor and will be a Drivers' School Participant.

The event format is as follows:

***Friday, September 19*** is set aside for ADVANCED Drivers' Education only. Prior track experience, either at Grattan or other tracks, is required. NO EXCEPTIONS! Novices are welcome to help – and will benefit from learning more about the track.

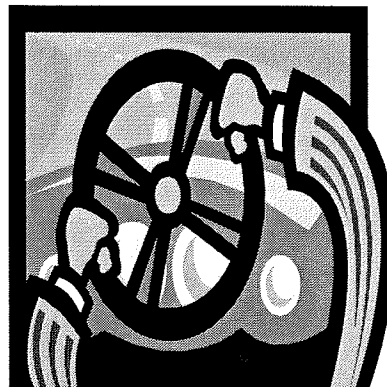
***Saturday, September 20 and Sunday, September 21*** will be Drivers' Education with full instruction and professional corner worker support. Novices will begin each day with DRIVER'S SCHOOL before starting track activity with assigned instructors. Saturday night, the *Western Michigan Region PCA* invites you to join us for a TRACKSIDE BANQUET.

***Sunday September 21*** will complete the Driver's Education instruction at noon, followed by TIME TRIALS in the afternoon. All experienced drivers are welcome to participate. Drivers with no track experience prior to this event are not eligible for time trials.

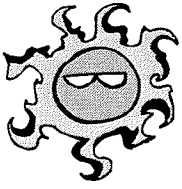
During lunchtime on Saturday and Sunday, we will have low-speed TOURING around the track. The "cost" is a \$20 donation, which will be given 100% to the designated WMR Grattan Grand Prix charity. Lunch is available at the track on all three days.

Contact: Amber Door, Registrar  
645 Summerset Drive  
Jenison, MI 49428  
Phone: (616) 457-4515  
Email: [Amdoor242@aol.com](mailto:Amdoor242@aol.com)  
Or: [www.Clubregistration.net](http://www.Clubregistration.net)

Questions: Ted Blackledge, Chairman  
Phone: (616) 866-4143  
Email: [sgrafex@chartermi.net](mailto:sgrafex@chartermi.net)



**SEE YOU AT THE TRACK IN SEPTEMBER!**



## 2008 GIMMICK RALLY

The afternoon of Saturday July 26 was about as drop-dead gorgeous a Michigan summer day for which anyone could ask. It made the memory of a blustery, snowy Michigan winter day float away like dandelion fluff.

Twenty-six courageous Porsche club members arrived in Ada to start the Third Annual Gimmick Rally on their way to a Southwestern-themed dinner at our home in Rockford. We even attracted participation by Bill & Sue Campbell from Motor-Stadt Region, and were happy they could join us. The Rallyists enjoyed a relatively short, yet challenging route through eastern Kent County, passing through countryside of farms, woods, fields and around three lakes. It must have been a strange sight for passersby to see Porsches puttering, with their occupants peering around for answers to the ingenious clues posed by the Rally Masters (yeah, that's us).

Craig Ackerman was the point man to get each couple off to a good start. I knew they were in good hands since he's been working the grid at Grattan for a number of years!

The route took about 1 1/2 hours and covered about 40 miles, ending at the checkpoint at the head of our driveway.

While we were winding our way home, Chris Ackerman and Gabi were chopping vegetables for the taco and trimmings dinner. Chris expertly displayed the food while Gabi washed up a mountain of prep dishes. They were ready for adult beverages to toast the weary wanderers! Several folks also contributed deserts that were yummy and much appreciated!

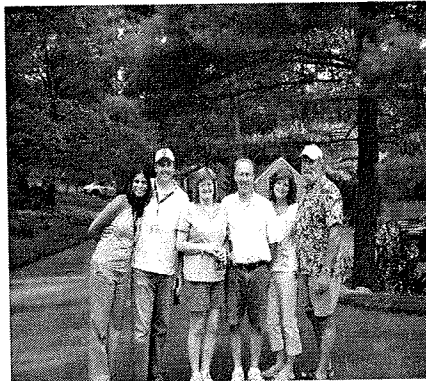
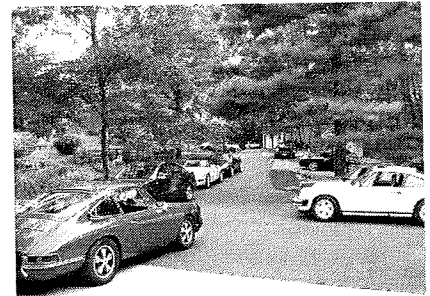
The assortment of Porsches is always fun to see at these events, and we were honored that Rick Riley chose to debut his new adorable orange 356 Speedster D. Too cute for words.

First Prize was awarded to Terry & Dorilee Shieble, Second to Dan & Ren Phillips and Third to Dale & Cindy Siekman.

However, the highlight for me was that Amber Door spent twenty minutes burrowed into the transmission tunnel of my '83 Cab, adjusting the rubber gator boot to it's proper position – a feat I've been trying to accomplish for months! THANK YOU AMBER!

Thanks to all - hope you had fun and we're already scheming for next year!

Ted and Gabi Blacklidge



**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

In June's issue of Uber Alles, I asked you to send in pictures of your babies and your Porsches. Here is the first member (of many, I'm sure) to respond with a wonderful picture and story:

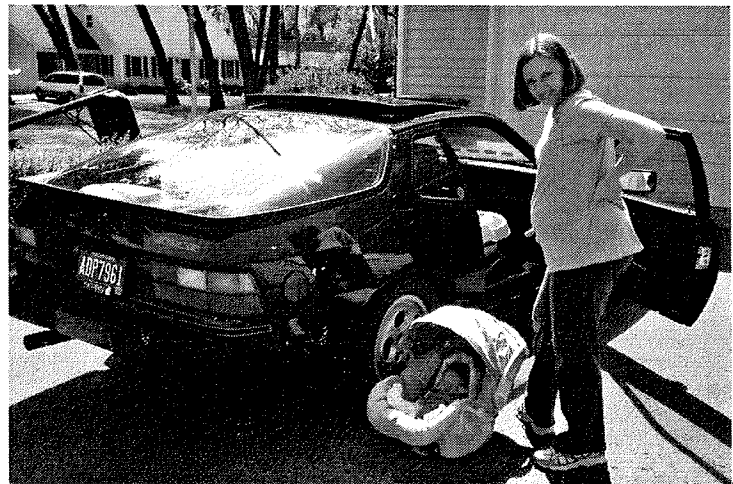
My daughter, Amanda (now two years' old) will always have a special connection to my 924S. First off, the day I bought the car, I returned home to learn that my wife, Kristi, was pregnant with Amanda. It was soon after that I decided the Porsche should deliver Amanda and Mom home from the hospital (with Mom's permission, of course). One problem: the car seat would not fit in the back. However, with no airbag to deal with, it was decided that Amanda would ride up front with me and Kristi would brave the back "seat."

In this picture, I had just unloaded four-day-old Amanda. You can bet I was beaming with pride driving home that day! But the real star was my wife, who kept her word and successfully squeezed herself in and out of the back of the 924, post C-Section. What a trooper!

Thanks for the opportunity to share this fond memory. Brady Harnishfeger

Thanks for sharing with us, Brady  
You're a lucky man, indeed!

Gabi



---

**Muskegon Area Dinner Drive  
Saturday September 27 @ 2:00 PM**

Join us for a change of pace after all the excitement at the Grattan DE event - relax with a nice leisurely drive and dinner the weekend after.

We will meet at Russ's restaurant across from the US-31 to 120 (Fremont) exit at 2:00 PM and plan to depart for Fremont at 2:45 PM.

The drive will wind through some of the most scenic and twisting roads in the area, ending up for diner at Ramshorn on the Lakes in Fremont. After diner we'll drive back to Muskegon via a different route to enjoy the sunset on Lake Michigan.

Check out our web-site (<http://wmi.pca.org/>) for maps and more information.  
Or call and/or email Paul & Renee Krapp (231) 924-6173 [pkrapp@sintelinc.com](mailto:pkrapp@sintelinc.com)

**IROC I Results**  
**Motor~Stadt Region**  
**June 14, 2008 Spartan Speedway**

Class	Place	Car #	Driver	Car	Region	Time
S03-M	1	19	Gary Schultz	986 Boxster 2.5L	WMR	42.633
S04-M	1	6	Jason Yirsa	987 Boxster S 3.2L	MSR	42.941
S06-M	FTD	1	Jim Garner	Cayman S 3.4L	SEM	41.243
		3	Terril Whitney	987 Boxster S 3.4L	MSR	42.828
P07-M	2	2	Denny Garrett	911 2.7L	WMR	41.541
P09-L	FTD	51	Lena Spross	911 Carrera 3.2L	WMR	51.294
P09-M	1	5	Eric Spross	911 Carrera 3.2L	WMR	42.966
	2	8	Colin Carpenter	911 Carrera 3.2L	WMR	43.716
Other	1	17	Will Page-Echols	Subaru WRX	MSR	44.796
	2	4	T.J Thatcher	Dodge Caliber SRT4	WMR	45.087
	3	7	Wendy Page-Echols	Subaru WRX	MSR	46.185

FTD = Fastest Time of Day  
Time is in seconds.

**IROC II Autocross,**  
**hosted by Michiana Region is on**  
**Saturday, August 23rd at The Tire Rack, 7107 Vorden Parkway in South Bend, Indiana.**  
**For more information contact:**  
**Matt Napieralski at nappybmw@att.net**

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All these examples do NOT imply that gasoline is cheap; it just illustrates how outrageous some prices are.... You will be really shocked by the last one! This makes one think, and puts in perspective the other things we buy.....

Diet Snapple 16 oz \$1.29 .....	\$10.32 per gallon
Lipton Ice Tea 16 oz \$1.19 .....	\$9.52 per gallon
Gatorade 20 oz \$1.59 .....	\$10.17 per gallon
Ocean Spray 16 oz \$1.25 .....	\$10.00 per gallon
Brake Fluid 12 oz \$3.15 .....	\$33.60 per gallon
Vick's Nyquil 6 oz \$8.35 .....	\$178.13 per gallon
Pepto Bismol 4 oz \$3.85 .....	\$123.20 per gallon
Whiteout 7 oz \$1.39 .....	\$25.42 per gallon
Scope 1.5 oz \$0.99 .....	\$84.48 per gallon

And the REAL KICKER...Evian water 9 oz \$1.49.....\$21.19 per gallon!  
\$21.19 for WATER and the buyers don't even know the source!  
(Evian spelled backwards is Naive.)

Ever wonder why printers are so cheap? So they have you hooked for the ink. Someone calculated the cost of the ink at -- you won't believe it, but it's true.....\$5,200 a gallon! (five thousand two hundred dollars)

So, the next time you're at the pump, be glad your car doesn't run on bottled water, Scope, Whiteout, Pepto Bismol, Nyquil or, Heaven forbid, Printer Ink!  
Just a little humor to help ease the pain of your next trip to the gas station.

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## ROUTE 66 ROAD TRIPS - SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL ROUTE 66 MOTHER ROAD FESTIVAL

September in Springfield offers a respite from the start of school and the end of summer, with its *International Route 66 Mother Road Festival*, September 26 - 28, 2008 ([www.route66fest.com](http://www.route66fest.com)). If you like big car shows, but not big crowds - this is a great show to attend! Springfield plays the perfect host, closing ten+ square blocks of historic downtown and providing hundreds of volunteers to create a wonderful weekend car show get-away.

Getting there is easy – via the faster highway route of 96-80 to 57 south, or by taking the 'Mother Road,' starting in Chicago for the adventurous, or from Joliet for those averse to city driving. Route 66 in Illinois is very well marked, with signs at every intersection and alternate sections designated by age. If you start in Joliet, don't miss the Joliet Area Historical Museum ([www.jolietmuseum.org](http://www.jolietmuseum.org)), just a short hop from Harrah's. This museum features the rich history of Joliet, built on a major shipping canal linking the Chicago River with the Illinois River - 96 miles dug by Irish immigrants. Other attractions in Joliet include the train station and a high school that looks like a castle.

Traveling south takes you through small towns with quaint diners, over aging concrete, and past phantom ghost signs on building walls. Gardner offers an old-time restored gas station across from a new coffee shop built from piggybacked semis. There's also a Frank Lloyd Wright bank downtown. Pontiac has the Route 66 Association of Illinois museum ([www.il66assoc.org](http://www.il66assoc.org)). Odell features a restored gas station museum and several stretches of 'older' road that can be accessed for photo ops. Lexington and Towanda both have roadside parks built on abandoned sections of the road. You'll find Funks Grove Maple "Sirup" shop and the historic Funk Prairie Home in Shirley, also a nature sanctuary off the road a bit ([www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org](http://www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org)). Don't miss the Giant Hot Dog Man in Atlanta! This fine example of advertising art was moved from Cicero and restored by the Illinois association.

Heading into Springfield, you can't miss Shea's gas station, with its eclectic collection of roadside "stuff." Stop in at the Cozy Dog for an original battered hotdog on a stick and your journey is complete! Travel time, taking the scenic route, is about seven hours. You will arrive in Springfield late afternoon, in time to check into the hotel and freshen up for the evening events.

The Springfield show starts off with a bang – participating cars gather at the DOT parking lot outside of town on Friday night. On command, about 500 cars roll out to a police escort, winding through the city past cheering residents and ending with a drive up the people-packed streets of downtown. Much partying ensues!!!

Hotels are plentiful – the best spot is right downtown offering security parking and within walking distance of the show area. Saturday gives you plenty of opportunity to show off your car, listen to the many bands performing throughout the area, browse the novelty vendors, and talk to people from around the world. Yes, they really do mean 'international!' We had a nice chat over breakfast at the Hilton with an English couple whose club flew from England *with their cars*. There were several car clubs attending, notably a large collection of Opels. There is usually a dinner dance party event Saturday night, also bands playing throughout the city. Sunday involves more show and awards, which, like most amateur car shows, favor the 'locals' and are probably not worth staying for. I recommend breakfast at Sgt Peppers Café south of town and head home by way of the highway. Michigan City makes a nice mid-drive stop on the way home, if you have time.

For more information on Route 66 Illinois car shows and attractions, I recommend the websites listed above, as well as one by authors John & Lenore Weiss ([www.il66authority.com](http://www.il66authority.com)) who have many informational handbooks out to help you explore The Mother Road.

See you on Route 66 !

Special Contributors,  
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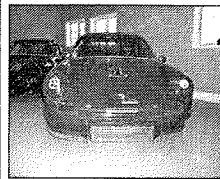
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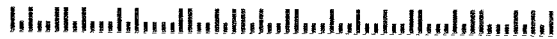
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