

# ÜBER ALLES



#### September 2009

#### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

#### SEPTEMBER 2009

- 06 WMR IROC @ Ionia
- 14 Monthly Meeting 7:00pm, Delta Imports
- 12 Dinner Drive, hosted by Randy Portoluri
- 18 Grattan Driver Education (18th, 19th, & 20th)

#### OCTOBER 2009

- 01 Escape to the Birthplace of Aviation, hosted by Ohio Valley Region (01 - 04)
- 05 Monthly Meeting 7:00pm, Delta Imports
- 10 Fall Color Tour, hosted By Randy Portoluri

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# WEST MICHIGAN REGION AUTOCROSS

Sure, your Porsche can go fast in a straight line, but do you *really* know how well your vehicle corners? If not, plan to buzz on over to the Ionia Fairgrounds on:

# SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 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 - the river is 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 9:00 to 10:00 am.

Novices (first-timers) will be able to get instruction from experienced autocrossers starting at 10:00. Start time for the event will be 11:00 am.

Contact Ted Blacklidge, 616-866-4143 or sqrafex@chartermi.net for more information.







# **Upcoming Events**

Monthly Meetings will occur on 1st Monday of every month at 7PM at Delta Imports, 6025 28th St. SE Grand Rapids, 49546



# September Dinner Drive

September 12, 2009 @ 4:00pm.

We will meet in the parking lot of the Spring Lake Holiday Inn at 4:00pm.

940 West Savage Street (M-104)

Just off US 31 (Spring Lake exit)

Drive will last about 1 hour and will tour the area's rivers and waterways.

Dinner to follow around 5:00pm at the Clover Bar restaurant - voted the Grand Haven Tribune People's Choice Award 601 S Beech Tree and Waverley)

Please call (616) 842-9266 to RSVP.



#### West Michigan Region - 2009 Calendar of Events (UPDATED)

September	06 14 18- 20 12	WMR IROC - Ionia Board Meeting Grattan Driver Education Dinner Drive - Host: Randy Portoluri	November	2 6 18	Board Meeting (2010 planning) Dinner Drive - Hosts: Duane & Brenda Weed Dinner Drive
October	1 - 4 5 10	Porsche Escape 2009 Dayton, OH Board Meeting Fall Color Tour Hosts: Paul & Renee Krapp	December	7 TBD	Board Meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> Annual WMR Appetizer Party - <i>Hosts: TBD</i>

## GRAND PRIX OF GRATTAN DRIVERS' EDUCATION EVENT SEPTEMBER 18, 19, 20 2009

#### The event is limited to 80 Participants - 15 Novice, 65 Experienced - REGISTER NOW!!

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:

<u>Friday, September 18</u> 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.

<u>Saturday, September 19 and Sunday, September 21</u> 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.

<u>Sunday September 01</u> will complete the Driver's Education instruction at approximately 5:00. No Time Trials this year.

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
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Jenison, MI 49428
Phone: (616) 457-4515
Email: Amdoor242@aol.com
Or: www.Clubregistration.net

Questions: Ted Blacklidge, Chairman Phone: (616) 866-4143 Email: sgrafex@chartermi.net



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



#### **Drivers Education**

(from a Novice's Point of View)

I was so excited when I finally got my Porsche, a 1990 911 C4. She is small, sharp and fun to drive, needed "a little work" but overall I was in love. Of course my excitement led me to the internet and during the first of many searches I discovered PCA, along with Pelican Parts. My number one search site, which had been Neiman Marcus, was immediately replaced by Pelican Parts.

I spent countless hours washing and waxing her while bugging my husband to make sure all the gauges worked and that the oil pressure was right, making sure to specify for him all the lights and little details that I wanted fixed.

I had the car a year and would drive AMAMA (as much as Michigan allows).

While reading through Uber Alles one month, an article stood out, "Drivers Education", I thought it sounded kind of fun, but I already knew how to drive! For some reason, I couldn't stop thinking about it. So I signed up out curiosity, wondering what a "Tech" check was and why would I need a helmet?!

The article I had read said to go the day before to kind of get the feel for things and help out a little. My heart started racing as we pulled into the Grattan track and suddenly I realized that maybe I was the one that needed "a little work!" After watching a few Porsches fly by, and hearing the deep exhaust sounds that were completely over the top, they let us cross the track. We walked toward a tent and Amber pops out and warmly says "You must be Jill!" Feeling an immediate sense of camaraderie, Amber walks us around to meet some people and get a feel for what I am about to experience.

I became awestruck walking between all the beautiful Porsches parked near the track. After strolling around we head to the Grattan bar. WOW, nice people, great fun, food and lots of talk about cars.

Saturday morning I show up for the drivers meeting. I think that's cute we're probably going to talk about a few rules. As the instructor begins talking I think "WHAT, my car needs to be 'teched'"?? If I go off the track I have to go back to the Tech area? WHAT? OK...breathe... I tell myself to settle down. I find out my personal instructor is Terry, bonus that he's the head instructor, whom we met at diner the night before. I am hyper beyond and he seems laid back... this will work out perfectly.

Terry tells me to get in because it's our turn to go out. I get in, Terry starts my car, but hey this doesn't feel like my car, my car jerks a little when going in reverse. We approach the grid and get released into the first curve. My heart pounds as I think that this totally is not my car... my car can't pull these kind of G's in a turn. Its 90 degrees, my

heart is racing and the Porsche is reborn! I had no idea my car had these capabilities. This simply was not doing 90mph on I-96 with my radar detector. I can't stop smiling with excitement as we make our way to the 90 degree turn. Just raw hard cool! I realize at that moment that this car that I had never really driven the car I had owned for 2 years.

Now it's my turn to drive and I now knew this was not going to be easy. Still in shock that my 19 year old car could "shake it up" I shook inside. After about 30 turns, I hear "Jill where are you?" referring to my place on the track. Next thing I know it's "GO!" and "keep your hands on the wheel!" Then the one thing that Terry dreads, "let him go by." (My left arm was developing a bicep from letting others go by!)

After what feels like a thousand turns, Terry says I'm ready for him to sign me off. This translates to "Jill is aware of other drivers and not a danger."

On the last run I walk up and say I am not driving, Terry is shocked and confused at first but I explain "I need you to drive my car but this time like you want me to drive." I know that this example will be my best teacher. I would never change that decision. He knows the cars capabilities and I obviously don't have a clue. With Terry at the wheel I started to realize the true potential of this machine on the track.

As my husband and I drive home on Saturday, I am exhausted and in love with my car, wondering if I could do this tomorrow.

Sunday arrives and as I am getting ready to go to the track I can feel the adrenaline rush. I love the smell of brake fluid in the morning. I look at my car with a whole new respect. My first run on the track is a lot better and I decided I'm ready to do it by myself. I pull up to the "grid" and they let me go. I drive into the first turn and think, "Don't brake until you see God" (I think I might of); now line up with the tree; that hill is going to fall out in front of you---God, trees... hills... almost sounds like a nature retreat.

Well I make it and as I get out of my car, Terry says I can do the time trials. TIME TRIALS!!! I'm so excited! As I sit in the time trial meeting with all the seasoned drivers, I look around and think Let the Big Dogs eat, just knowing that I could was enough for me so I opted not to do the time trials (Hey don't laugh it won me a hug)

DE class is great once but it has got to be over the top the second time! I tell myself Jill needs to marinate for a while. I have never driven the same since. I am a much better, safer and confident driver.

I am confident that anyone who owns a Porsche WILL NEVER OWN IT UNTIL THEY HAVE DONE A DRIVERS EDUCATION COURSE.

See you at the track!
Jill Myers-White

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ÜBER ALLES



#### 2009 Fall Color Tour

October 10, 2009 @ 1:00pm

As summer slowly winds down, and the temperature falls, West Michigan explodes into a spectacular frenzy of color along our country roads. What better way to enjoy this annual blaze of glory than in your Porsches with your Porsche friends?

Please join your hosts Paul and Renee Krapp as they guide us through some of the most scenic and twisty roads our area has to offer.

We will meet at Russ' Restaurant (across from US-31 to 120 - Fremont exit) at 1:00pm. We will depart at 1:45pm.

Dinner will be at the Northern Trails Bar & Grill (231) E 88th Street (M82), Newaygo MI 49337



Please check out WMR PCA's website for maps and more information.

Please RSVP to: pkrapp59@hotmail.com





Aerial view of Russ'



Map to Northern Trails Bar & Grill (Corner of Cypress and M82)

#### 2009 ZONE 4 DRIVERS' EDUCATION SCHEDULE

#### <u>Date</u>

September 10 September 18,19,20 September 22 September 26-27 October 16-17

#### Track/Location

Waterford Hills Grattan Raceway Waterford Hills Mid Ohio Bluegrass Motorsports

#### Organization

Southeast Michigan Western Michigan Region Rally Sport Region Allegheny Region Mid-Ohio Region

### FIRST PORSCHE PANAMERA MODELS TAKE FLIGHT AND BEGIN JOURNEY TO NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE EVENTS

First Panamera's Fill Boeing 747 for Long Trip to America's West Coast To Debut at Monterey Peninsula Automotive Week



ATLANTA—The first 31 Porsche Panamera models are in the air and on their way to the car's North American debut where the public will see the all-new four-passenger Gran

Turismo for the first time at a series of major events during the Monterey Peninsula Automotive Week (the week of August 9-16). Activities include automotive celebrations at the Quail Lodge, the Monterey Historics and the famed Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.

The cars were airlifted directly from Leipzig, Germany, where they are produced alongside the Cayenne sports utility vehicle using the most state-of-the-art production methods. The car represents Porsche's fourth model line

and has been highly anticipated ever since the company announced four years ago that it would build the brand's first-ever four-passenger sports car.

The Panamera Gran Turismo will go on sale at Porsche's 202 U.S. dealers on October 17, 2009.

The cars will make appearances at historic and high-profile events that include the famous and elegant Quail Lodge, the 36th Rolex Monterey Historic Automobile Races at Mazda Laguna Seca Raceway, where Porsche is the featured marquee, and finally at arguably the most famous councours in world—the Pebble Beach Councours d'Elegance. ###



Photo Caption:

Precious cargo: Thirty one brand new Porsche Panameras are awaiting their flight to the U.S. at the Leipzig, Germany, airport. Having just rolled off the assembly line at the near-by Porsche production plant each car is carefully lifted, secured and then placed on the 747 cargo plane. The wraps will come off at the Monterey Peninsula automotive festivals the week of August 9

#### **Monthly Meeting Minutes:**

Delta Imports, Grand Rapids – Meeting was called to order by Ted Blacklidge at 7:00 pm. Members present were: Ted and Gabi Blacklidge, Dan Phillips, Amber Door, Brenda Hildon-Kaempf, Rick Riley, Arnie Axelrod, and Kurt Wirth

Minutes: Approved by members present.

Treasurer's Report: Approved by members present.

**Webmaster' Report:** The website is up-to-date "except for the bazillion photos Amber just sent".

Membership Report: 243 Primary Members, 196 Affiliate Members – total 439. New Members are: Sasko & Danche Gjorgjievski, Grand Rapids, '04 911. Transfer in: 1 – from the Carolina's: Robert Johnson III and Robert Johnson IV, Holland, '71 914-4. Transfers out: 0. Non renewals: 2. Renewals: 15.

Advertising Report: No report.

**Uber:** Printing time was a little slower this past issue. Working on an ad for Delta. Need to update Kurt Wirth's email address. The Uber looks very nice.

**Insurance:** Insurance is set for Grattan and insurance for the next dinner drive will go out tomorrow (Aug 4).

#### **Driving Events:**

Grattan DE – We have 28 registered – 7 students, 21 experienced.
 As an FYI, the RSR DE in June was 1 person short of breakeven.

#### Old Business:

- Gimmick Rally Was a delight. A perfect day with about 19 participants.
- P2O Attended by Dan & Ren Phillips, Amber Door, and Jerry Arens.
- Picnic @ Gilmore over 50 people attended. Many as a first time event.

#### **New Business:**

- Golf Outing @ Egypt Valley August 7. Will be a small group of 8.
- Saunter August 22. Hosted by Barry & Candis Collick. Details on the web and in the Uber.
- Metro Cruise August 28/29. Location is still to be determined. Location will be sent via email blast once known. Delta has confirmed and will now be catered by Sandman's Friday night at 6pm.
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary \*\*Tentative date is now August 20-22, 2010\*\*
   Dan submitted the application for the use of Calder Plaza for the concourse. Details continue to be worked out. We welcome all ideas. Will need numerous volunteers to ensure a fun and successful event.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm Respectively submitted by Brenda Hildon-Kaempf

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#### 2009 PCA Escape to the Birthplace of Aviation October 1-4, 2009

The PCA Ohio Valley Region invites you to this year's Escape in Dayton, Ohio.

Join us for Country Road Tours, Scenic Covered Bridge Tours, the Aviation Trail Interpretive Centers, and private Behind the Scenes Tours at the National Museum of the United States Air Force.

Opportunities for car viewing and dining are combined at White Allen Porsche, the Packard Museum, Quaker Steak & Lube, the Taj
Ma Garaj and at Carillon Park.

So come to the "Heart of it All" in Southwest Ohio for Escape 2009!

#### Register for Escape 2009 at:

http://escape.ovrpca.org

#### SEPTEMBER HUDIVERSARIES

Allan & Carol Nelson 20 Years

Craig & Chris Ackerman 15 Years

> Michael Mohr 10 Years

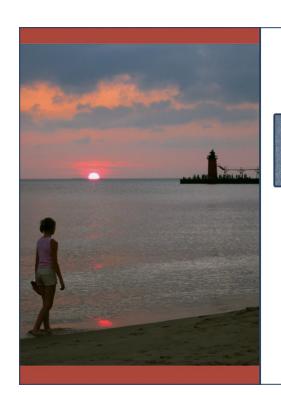
James & Kimberly Stubbart 5 Years

Debra Brown-Hendrickson & Edwin Hendrickson 1 Year

> Douglas Doornbos 1 Year

> John Weidenfeller 1 Year





Join us Fri-Sun, Sep 25-27 for some Fun in the Sun at

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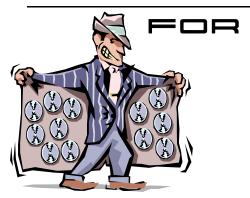
town of South Haven, MI (awesome family-friendly weekend planned) - info is posted on our web site

www.cirpca.org, or just watch your email (if we have it on file, we'll let you know . . . )

See You SOON



Randy@PerformanceDriverEd.net



944T & 944T PARTS - 1986 944 Turbo coupe, stone gray/burg., koni 2-way cup-car coilovers, M030 front sway bar, racer's edge bushings, camber plates, Lindsey Racing stage-3 heads, MAF, intake manifold & solid lifter/cam, larger turbo, chips, adj. air/fuel, 968 - 6 speed trans., 3 sets of wheels, roll bar, sparco racing seats and belts, fiberglass rear bumper \$16,000 OBO. 944T parts: fiberglass fenders \$250. Front Fiberglass hood \$200, Fiberglass 924T LeMans real spoiler for \$200, Lexan rear hatch \$500. Window net \$50, 944T front brake calipers \$60, 944T 5-speed trans. with cooler \$600, SFR stage-3 turbo \$900. Prices as listed, OBO. Ron Hendrick (616) 402-0362 (NOV)

1983 Porsche 930 - Pearl white, 87,600 miles. Very good condition. New parts and updates by Bruce at German Auto. Priced at \$34,500. Call Jack @ (231) 937-4392

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:

#### SPLE

PARTS FOR SALE 944 - Control A-arms, complete exhaust system with catalytic converter, brake rotors, calipers, torsion bars, coil over springs 400 lb, design 90 wheels 7 x 8 x 16", CV joints with new boots, oil coolers, steering wheel w/ air bag. 911- (930) complete exhaust system with exchangers, oil lines, lower front clip w/ driving lights (black), transmission gear set (1st to 4th), 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 Ackeaman@aol.com.

FOR SALE: Two Dunlop SP Sports - \$150.00 255-40-ZR 17. Never mounted excellent condition. Call Dave Reid @ 616-560-3583 or 517-667-9943

96 POLAR SILVER CABRIOLET W/BLK TOP AND BLK. INT. 6-sp. factory limited slip diff, Hi-Fi opt. CD. New Battery, New Tires, Like New top, Many extras. Car is in superb condition. Stored winters, etc.. 44,300 miles. \$40,000 obo - John Weidenfeller 616.942.7050 (work) or

616.540.4386 (cell)

928 ENGINE FOR SALE: 1985 928 5.0 ltr quad cam, 88k actual, runs good. VIN: WP0JB0921FS860652. Engine take out for engine upgrade for track use. ALL Accessories, alt, PS, Smog pump, ignition coils, wires, New Injectors, rails - EVERYTHING GOES - Lots of new and upgraded parts, please call me directly or email me for photos or a time to see the engine <a href="mailto:sgober@mycfcr.com">sgober@mycfcr.com</a> 616-893-0891 No reasonable offer refused

FOR SALE: 4 16" Wheels off a 993 with all season tires. \$600.00 or best offer. Call Arnie at 616-443-4901

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### WMR PCA Picnic and Concours By Amber Door

Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> arrived with the sun shining and hundreds of cars arriving at Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, MI. The event this year was held in conjunction with the 29<sup>th</sup> annual Red Barn Extravaganza Car show. The event included antique, classic and special interest cars, as well as antique boats and campers. The club had a car corral with plenty of parking for the almost 30 cars that came out to the event. As the morning progressed Porsches continued to arrive from WMR and Motorstadt regions. We even had a few Porsches that found their way to our corral under the direction of the event workers that had no idea that there was a Porsche Club Car Corral. They were just pointed in our direction!

As participants arrived some spent some time cleaning their cars to remove the bit of travel dirt in preparation for the upcoming Concours. If they did not plan to participate they spent time admiring the Porsches gathered in the corral before venturing out onto the Gilmore grounds to take in the sights of hundreds of other amazing cars, boats and campers, in addition to exploring the open barns on the museum grounds.

Early in the afternoon the judges began looking over the participants in the topside Concours. They examined the cars for cleanliness and care on the visible exterior of the car (topside only). The friendly competition was very close in all classes. Congratulations to all who participated.

At 3:00, as the awards were being announced the sky began to darken and the clouds began to leak. The rain held out until the last award was quickly handed out. Nevertheless the day was a success, despite the rain cutting the day a bit short for some. A few of our member braved the rain (and avoided the back up to leave the event) and continued to enjoy the venue at the Blue Moon Diner and the less congested barns. Some (one) even waited around to get just the right photograph of their beauty when the sun came out and shown on the rain drops on their highly waxed surface. So, despite the afternoon rain, everyone who came out had a great time and had a huge car fix!

If you were unable to come this year get ready to mark your calendar for the event next year. We will have a gathering without the Concours event to allow for more time viewing all the great vehicles on the Gilmore Grounds. We will still have a Concours event in 2009 in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary weekend event with our venue being Calder Plaza in Downtown Grand Rapids. Mark your calendar for both events in August 2010!

#### And the Winners Were ...

#### 356 Class

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Rick Riley – 1959 Speedster D 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Bill Hallack – 1960 356 Roadster

3rd Place: Kurt With - 1965 356sc

#### Late 911 Class - 1990-2010

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Al Yanosik — 1999 996 Cabriolet 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Randall Dione — 2004 996TT Cabriolet 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Claudio Kaempf/Brenda Hildon-Kaempf —

1997 993









#### Early 911 & 914 Class

1st Place: Tom Kayser - 1973 914

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: EJ Czarnopys - 1973 911 Targa

#### Mid/Front Engine Class

1st Place: Jim Schaaf - 2007 Cayman 2nd Place: Michael Betz - 1986 944











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#### CHRISTMAS IN JULY

No, not a sales pitch for giftbuying, but an appeal to any of our members who might be gracious enough to open their home during the holiday season some time in

December to host our annual Appetizer Party this year! It's a fun event — everybody brings an appetizer and/or wine to share — all you need to do is provide the party location — well, ok, you might want to decorate and clean the bathroom, but really, you have to do that anyway, right?

If you would like more information, email <a href="mailto:Gabriele@chartermi.net">Gabriele@chartermi.net</a> or call 616-866-4143 (home) or 616-616-4777 (cell).

#### Parade 2009, Keystone / Dillon, Colorado

We were able to complete a total restoration on Neila's 1959 356 sunroof coupe for its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. The car was delivered to Colorado by our friend and restoration specialist, Tim Thatcher, who used to own the car and who had not been to Parade since 1989! We have known Tim for more than 30 years, and he has done other cars for us as well as maintaining many cars in the Western Michigan area near Grand Rapids.

The '59 coupe has new everything - including floors, longitudinal, motor, transmission, yada, yada, yada. We changed the color to black with a red interior and when the car arrived at Parade, we were very pleased with the outcome. We entered the Parade coucours in "Restoration" and scored 229.9 out of 235 possible points, so we are very pleased. Since Neila won her restoration class, we can now add to the 31 miles on the fresh car!

This win at Parade makes two in a row with two different cars. The local Space Coast project, a third car, will go next year to Parade in Illinois to try for a three-peat!!

Great driving roads, quaint small towns, good people, a terrific Zone 12 party, and beautiful mountain scenery all contributed to our wonderful time in Keystone/Dillon.

Our thanks to our friend, Tim, for his tremendous quality restoration and the fun of spending time with him at the event!

We are on to Dana Point/Newport Beach for the 356 / 23rd annual Concoursd'Elegance featuring the Porsche 356 automobile at the Laguna Cliffs Hotel at Seal Beach. More down the road for our black car!!

Neila & Daniel Bird, aka Nila & Dave as Ralph would say!















#### Dana Point / Newport Beach 23rd Annual Concours d'Elegance

Stop number two on the 50th birthday tour of Neila's 1959 / 356 Porsche: The Dana Point / Newport Beach 23rd annual concours d'Elegance featuring only the 356 Porsche automobile which is probably the largest 356 event in the United States each year. We are local California 356 Club members, and this is our first opportunity to attend with one of our own cars. We joined the California club as well as our primary FOG (Florida Owners Group) due to the amazing numbers and tremendous quality of the cars in Southern California. An added bonus of attending the Dana Point event was enjoying a brief visit with our daughter, Mara. She and her husband (and grand daughter, Coco) live in Long Beach and teach at the University of Southern California. So, we were able to take in a family visit AND feed our obsession with these old cars.

Almost 300 cars were on display for judging this year and even more were in attendance for viewing. Most of the ("viewing") drivers could easily have entered the concours as they were very good examples of the marque. We were not exactly sure how they determined the classes or groups, as this is a format that differs from most others we attend. We were moved into another "class" about half way through the concours and while judging was ongoing. We were a bit confused about that switch, but we scored 164.4 out of a possible 165 and, we were second! Again, needless to say, they have the best of the best in 356 automobiles at that event. We did get a special mention by the judges that said this car had the "straightest body" of any car present. That is a big acknowledgement of the body work done by the former car owner, restorer, and friend, Tim Thatcher of Euro Autowerks in

Rockford, Michigan. The event also has a

display group of old 911 Group R, and they were very interesting to see as well. All too soon, our Dana Point stay came to an end. It was filled with nice people, a great tour of a major restoration shop for all cars - including Porsche, tremendous hotel, facilities, and location for the event that were located 320 feet above the marina in the cliffs of Laguna. In addition, there were sunset dinners at the Chart House located another 200+ feet above the hotel.

Leg two of this adventure was now complete. The car was loaded on the truck and headed down to Scotts Valley to get checked out at Bruce Canepa's facility and museum. We will pick the car up for the next 10 days of events in Monterey. The tour continues for Neila's little black car!......Neila & Daniel Bird.....

# In Review: Porsches to Oxford Saturday, 25 July 2009

By Dan Phillips

One might think a beautiful 5-hour drive through back roads would be a good enough weekend experience in a Porsche, but on a beautiful weekend in late July, that was just the beginning.

However, "beautiful" might not be the word that describes the first few hours of this year's annual Porsches to Oxford event in Oxford, Ohio. The hometown of the University of Miami - Ohio (along with 409 Porsches) were drenched in a morning thunderstorm that had some enthusiasts ready to pack up early. But by noon, the sun was breaking through, the silicone squeegees were out in force, and Porsches to Oxford set another attendance record.

The six of us from the Western Michigan Region that ventured down into the Ohio valley for this great event were rewarded with an unforgettable experience that we are all eagerly planning for again next year. Ren and I were too late to get a room at the Elms Holiday Inn (1 block from the center of the festivities), so we instead booked a very nice room at the university's Marcum Conference Center/Miami Inn. This gave us a chance to walk through the beautiful formal gardens, lush green campus, and beautiful colonial architecture of one of the nation's oldest universities (founded in 1809). Oh, and there were Porsches. Lots and lots of Porsches.

There were 911s, 912s, 914s, 924s, 928s, 944s, 968s, some Beck 550 Spyders and 904s, Turbos, race cars, street-rods, and showroom-new classics brought in on trailers. There was even a pristine restored Porsche-Diesel Super tractor. There were singles, couples, families. There were sponsors and shopping, MCs and prizes, bars and restaurants, and Porsches. Lots and lots of Porsches.

This is a stellar event that every enthusiast should experience at least once. The entrance fee is so little - only \$25 - and the sights, sounds, and fun so great, that it should be on everybody's list. Where else but Parade can you see this much German engineering and style in one place?

For more information on this great event, visit http://porsches2oxford.com/.

Photos courtesy of Dan Phillips and Amber Door



























#### SAVE THE DATE





Porsche Club of America

Western Michigan Region

50th Anniversary Celebration!

# WMR PCA 50th Anniversary Celebration 20-21-22 August 2010

#### **Volunteers Needed!**

Please help us make our 50th Anniversary Celebration a success! We are looking for leaders to plan and manage the various events of our 50th Anniversary celebration weekend. We welcome volunteers to fill the following positions:

- Oberbefehlshaber [Taken: Dan Phillips]
- Director of Friday Afternoon Dinner Drive
- Director of Saturday AM Concours
- Concours Judges (need 3 people!)
- Director of Saturday Box Lunch
- Director of Saturday Afternoon Gimmick Rally [Taken: Ted Blacklidge]
- Director of Saturday PM Banquet
- Banquet MC
- Awards Manager
- Director of Sunday AM Cars & Coffee
- Director of Sunday AM Dinner Drive
- Director of Marketing & Advertising
- Sponsorship Director
- · Charity Coordinator

The officers will be on call to help in any way necessary, but it will be the primary responsibility of the volunteers to "own" their portion. The idea is to break down a big event into small, easily-managed parts. Become a big part of this important event – get involved!

Please contact Dan Phillips at (616) 281-2459 or <a href="mailto:dphilosom">dphil66@hotmail.com</a> to volunteer, or for questions about any of the jobs.

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#### KEEN, WERNER PAD GRAND-AM GT2 LEAD; LATE FLAT DEFLATES PENSKE DP

With the 911 GT3 Cup of Farnbacher Loles Racing, Dirk Werner (Germany) and Leh Keen (USA) further extended their lead in the American Grand-Am Series. At the ninth round of the season on the time-honoured circuit of Watkins Glen in the US State of New York, the pair secured second place in the GT class on Friday evening – just 0.774 seconds off claiming their fifth win of the season. With this result, they continue on a solid title course.

"Our tactic worked perfectly. We didn't have a single problem with our car and in the championship we were able to pull further away from our opponents," said Dirk Werner. "A huge compliment to Leh. As another car spun in front of him, he reacted brilliantly to avoid a collision, and saved us points."

Porsche Junior Marco Holzer (Germany) also gave a strong performance at just his second Grand-Am race. In the Farnbacher Loles Racing 911 GT3 Cup he quickly became familiar with the difficult track and netted top times from all practice sessions. In the race, he took over the car from teammate Eric Lux (USA), after Lux had been involved in three collisions and had been the cause of one of many caution phases. "When I climbed into the cockpit the car was already looking the worse for wear and difficult to handle," said Marco Holzer, who finally saw the flag as ninth. "I was so upset that I even turned the fastest GT time towards the end of the race - at least that was some consolation. Still, to race on this legendary circuit is a fantastic experience."

In the Daytona Prototype class, David Donohue (USA) and Darren Law (USA) claimed sixth place with Brumos Racing's Porsche Riley. Their teammates Joao Barbosa (Portugal) und JC France (USA) secured eighth which also earned them

crucial championship points. "That was a tough race for us. For a time it looked as if we weren't going to do so well," said David Donohue, who won the season-opening 24 Hours at Daytona with Darren Law. "But then we were able to use several situations to our advantage. This makes us optimistic for the rest of the season.

With the Porsche Riley fielded by Penske Racing, Timo Bernhard (Germany) and Romain Dumas (France) were well on their way to a podium result. Shortly before Timo Bernhard handed the car over to his teammate, he had even moved into the lead. After the driver change, Romain Dumas rejoined the race in twelfth and fought his way up the field. Six minutes before the finish of the two hour race he was sitting in third when his front-right tyre exploded. After the pit stop, the Porsche works drivers, who secured third at the six hour race on this circuit in June, saw the chequered flag in 13th.

"This race was again typical for our season. Right from the beginning we had to drive without a clutch but still third was within reach. We fought hard for this, but unfortunately didn't receive the rewards," said Timo Bernhard. Romain Dumas added: "The tyre just exploded without warning. I suspect there was something on the track. We were running well, although we still have no chance against our competitors on the straights."

Round 10 of the Grand-Am Series takes place on 29th August in Montreal/Canada.

# # #

Photo Courtesy - Porsche AG

Porsche 911 GT3 Cup, Farnbacher Loles Racing: Dirk Werner, Leh Keen



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