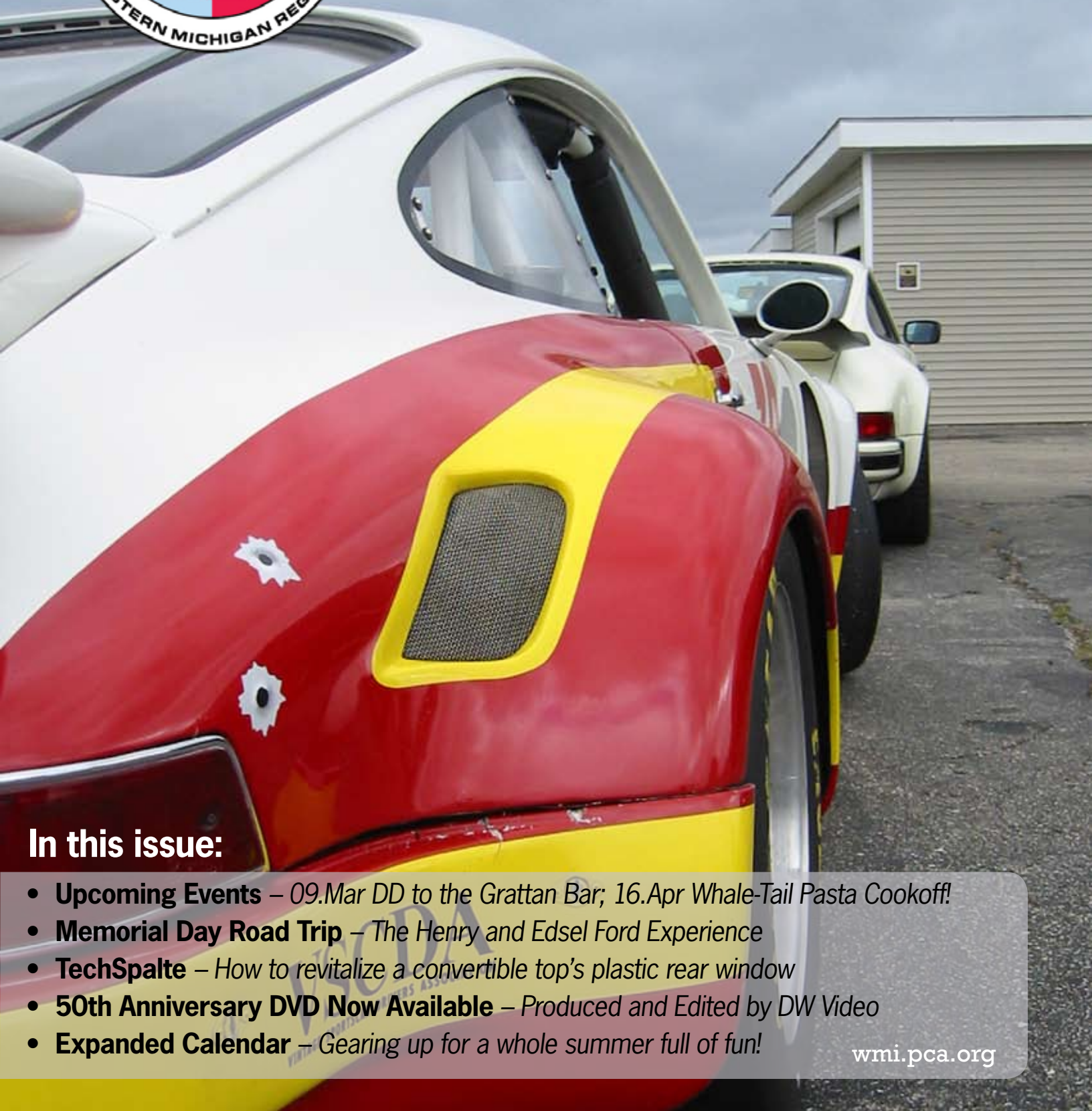




ÜBER ALLES

Porsche Club of America, Western Michigan Region

March 2011



In this issue:

- **Upcoming Events** – 09.Mar DD to the Grattan Bar; 16.Apr Whale-Tail Pasta Cookoff!
- **Memorial Day Road Trip** – The Henry and Edsel Ford Experience
- **TechSpalte** – How to revitalize a convertible top's plastic rear window
- **50th Anniversary DVD Now Available** – Produced and Edited by DW Video
- **Expanded Calendar** – Gearing up for a whole summer full of fun!

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Über Alles March 2011 Issue

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Vom Schreibtisch des Präsidenten

Dan Phillips
President, Western Michigan Region

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Greetings! Believe it or not, summer is just around the corner. As we slide sideways with all four tires smoking into the next driving season, the WMR Board would like you to be aware that you can now purchase insurance that specifically covers you and your car while on the track. It's the Lockton HPDE (High-Performance Driving Event) product. Please visit <http://pcahpdeins.locktonaffinity.com/Default.aspx>. This is officially sanctioned by and partnered with PCA national.

I'd also like to point out that we now have DVDs available of our 50th anniversary event! Yaayyy!! See the ad on page 10.

Finally, we all know of the legendary Fuchs alloy wheels that are so common on Porsches of the '60s, '70s, and '80s. The original manufacturer of the famous Fuchsfelge wheel, Otto Fuchs KG, is now going to manufacture re-engineered versions for newer 996 and 997 cars! These are a 'real' as it gets - the originals, made in Germany. (www.fuchsfelge.com)

I also encourage you to consider some of the larger Zone 4, National PCA, and great non-PCA events this summer:

- Porsche is the Marque of the Year at this year's Pittsburg Vintage Grand Prix. PCA's Allegheny Region would love to have other Zone 4 members attend, it is sure to be a ball! (July 15-24)
- Concours d'Elegance of America is the new name for the former Meadowbrook Concours. Held in Plymouth, MI, this is but a stone's throw from our area to see some truly world class pedigreed automobiles. (July 31)
- Porsche Parade 2011 in Savannah, GA - if you've never been to a Parade, you owe it to yourself at least once in your life. It's a magnificent event, the highlight of the year for the national PCA scene. (July 31 - Aug 6)
- Boxtoberfest 2011 in Fredericksburg, TX - the largest gathering of Boxsters in the country. If you love the Porsche Boxster, you need to get to it at least once in your life too... (Sep 9-11)
- PCA Escape 2011 in Flagstaff, AZ - Missed Parade? Escape is a bit smaller, but still a grand old national PCA event worthy of your consideration. (Sep 15-18)

Officers



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1998 Porsche Boxster 'Ruby II'



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In Review: Winterfest 2011



Text by Dan Phillips; Photos by Dan Phillips and Amber Door



This year's Winterfest celebration brought us to a new venue, the spectacularly beautiful Cascade Hills Country Club in Grand Rapids. This classically beautiful location, with an architectural style reminiscent of the traditional styles of northern France, provided a dramatic backdrop to an evening filled with Porsche club members from all over our region.

An elegant cocktail hour preceded dinner in the grand lounge area adjacent to the large ballroom, where a pianist on one end, a roaring fireplace on the other, and a full-service bar in the middle kept our members warm, cozy, and smiling. The WMR board members briefly spoke to the group before dinner, which was expertly prepared by chef Kim Meuser and his staff, and presented by the highly attentive banquet staff. The quality of food and service was outstanding, with a plated dinner of filet mignon and mahi-mahi that pleased and satisfied everyone.

Before and during dinner, we enjoyed a slideshow of photos from the past year's events, assembled by our webmaster Michael Betz. After dinner, WMR President Dan Phillips gave a brief presentation that included recognition of all the hardworking club members who helped out in 2010, while club historian Kurt Wirth had numerous displays of our club history on hand. We were reminded of the high achievement of the Western Michigan Region at the national level at Parade in 2010, and the passing of our 50th anniversary. Rick Riley took the podium to award the trophies to WMR's 2010 Enthusiast of the Year, Dan Phillips, and to runner-up Amber door. The remainder of the evening was filled with after-dinner cocktails, lots of smiles and laughter, and the warmth of friends new and old. Hats off to event chair Brenda Hildon-Kaempf, and all who helped out!



In Review: Winterfest Morning-After Brunch

Text by Amber Door; Photos by Amber Door and Dan Phillips

Despite the threat of the return of winter weather, a fearless group of Porsche enthusiasts traveled from near and far to gather at Charlie's Crab for an award winning



brunch. As has been our experience in the past, Charlie's Crab put on a grand buffet with items to satisfy everyone's taste. Add to many food choices a Bloody Mary with Pepper Vodka or a Mimosa along with great conversation and there was no better place for a Porsche Enthusiast to be on the 20th of February.

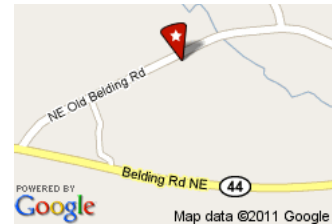


Upcoming Events: March

09 Mar **March Dinner Drive to the Grattan Bar**

Host: Kurt Wirth

Let's put some fun into the dreary month of March! Join us at the Grattan Bar on Wednesday, 09 March for hearty home cooking meals, famous all-you-can-eat fish fry, and great selection of other choices. Relax with us and enjoy this charming, historic hang-out that's a favorite of all our Grattan fans in the summer.



Where:

Grattan Bar
11817 Old Belding Road NE
Grattan, MI 48032

When:

Wednesday, 09 March 2011
7:00 pm
(...or earlier for drinks!)

Please RSVP by 07 March to kurtwirthsc356@comcast.net or call (616) 956-0249. Hope to see you there!

March Anniversaries:

Glückwünsche!

1 year (2010)

Ed Blackwell
Richard & Kathy Dirrenberger
Jack & Eileen Kooreman

5 years (2006)

Ted & Margaret Schroeder
10 years (2001)
Douglas & Sue Hume

15 years (1996)

Greg Bernath
Bill & Winnie White

New Members:

Willkommen!

There are no new members for March.

Chairpersons

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zone4rep@embarqmail.com

Upcoming Events: April and May

16 Apr

Whale-Tail Pasta Sauce Party and Cook-off Competition

Hosts: Terry and Dorilee Schieble

Enter your own red or white pasta sauce in a crock pot and compete for:

- Judge's Choice Red
- Judge's Choice White
- People's Choice (all recipes) *(Or just be an official sampler of them all!)*

MENU: YOUR pasta sauces
All the noodles and extras provided!
BYO: Beer and Wine
COST: \$10.00 per person
(FREE for chefs who bring at least one quart of "Home Grown" Pasta Sauce)

Date: Saturday, April 16th, 2011, 6:30 pm until ???

Location: The Schieble Residence
726 Lakeview Drive, Portage, MI

RSVP required by April 13! Please RSVP by calling (269) 329-1578, or (269) 271-1415 (Terry's mobile)
You may also email Terry at no39rsr@sbcglobal.net, or Dorilee at dschieble@sbcglobal.net.

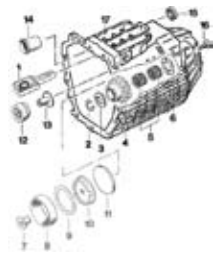


?? Apr

April Tech Session - Location and Topic TBD

Hosts: Amber Door & Jerry Arens

We plan on bringing you a tech session in late April, either the 24th or 30th, but this is so far TBD. Please watch the website, your email for a blast, and this space in the April issue for more information. We look forward to having at least two or three tech sessions per year going forward, so watch for more info!



**28 - 30
May**

The Henry and Edsel Ford Experience - Memorial Day Weekend 2011

Hosts: Len and Bonnie Gawron

We hope that you will consider joining us for a beautiful May Memorial spring weekend in Southeast Michigan. We will begin with a Friday afternoon tour of The Chrysler Museum in Auburn Hills. The next morning we will tour the industry leading eco-friendly Ford Rouge Factory which, since its establishment in 1917, is the oldest continuously operating automotive/truck manufacturing facility in the United States. That afternoon we will enjoy lunch and a guided tour of the fashionable Cotswold period architecture Edsel and Eleanor Ford Estate situated among beautiful English gardens framed by the Lake St. Clair shoreline. Our final day will begin with a casual brunch followed by the beauty, sounds and fragrances of Greenfield Village, which this weekend features the Civil War Remembrance reenactment and lifestyle.



We've planned this relaxed weekend based around the beautiful Dearborn Inn with its period elegance and flair. Sure to be included are fine dining and cocktails at area seafood and chop houses. The hotel has agreed to provide us with secure parking removed from the other guests. (Group Code = *pcapcaa*)

So, won't you join us for this relaxed weekend in Dearborn focused around The Henry & Edsel Ford Experience? We ask that you kindly RSVP to Len Gawron (lagawron@comcast.net) at your first opportunity that arrangements can be finalized before 15 April.

2011 Calendar

Porsche Club of America

Western Michigan Region



March	7	Monthly Board Meeting - Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	9	Dinner Drive to the Grattan Bar - Grattan, MI <i>Host: Kurt Wirth</i>
April	4	Monthly Board Meeting - Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	16	Whale-Tail Pasta Cookoff - Schieble Residence, Portage, MI <i>Hosts: Terry and Dorilee Schieble</i>
	TBD	Tech Session (Location TBD), Grand Rapids, MI <i>Hosts: Amber Door and Jerry Arens</i>
May	2	Monthly Board Meeting - Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	13-15	Spring at the Carousel - PCA Club Race (visit www.morpca.org) <i>Hosts: Mid-Ohio Region PCA</i>
	21	Dinner Drive (Location TBD) <i>Hosts: John & Marshall Walters</i>
	28-30	Memorial Day Road Trip to Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, MI <i>Hosts: Len & Bonnie Gawron / Mark & Kathy Bonnema</i>
June	6	Monthly Board Meeting - Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	18	Spring-Up to Traverse - Traverse City, MI <i>Hosts: Denny and Joyce Weise</i>
	22	Gilmore Gathering - Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners, MI <i>Host: Rick Riley</i>
July	9	DD & ALMS @ Lime Rock - Old Boys Brewhouse, Spring Lake, MI <i>Hosts: Randy & Linda Portoluri</i>
	11	Monthly Board Meeting - Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	15-24	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix - Pittsburgh, PA (visit www.pvgrp.org) <i>Host: Allegheny Region PCA for WMR members attending</i>
	24	Dinner Drive & ALMS @ Mosport - The Score, Grand Rapids, MI <i>Hosts: Dan & Ren Phillips</i>
	31	Concours d'Elegance of America (Meadowbrook) - Plymouth, MI <i>Non-PCA Event</i>
	31	Porsche Parade 2011 - Savannah, GA <i>PCA National Event</i>
Aug	1-6	Porsche Parade 2011 - Savannah, GA <i>PCA National Event</i>

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

For the full PCA Club Racing Schedule, visit <http://www.pca.org/Activities/ClubRacing/Schedule.aspx>.



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2011 Calendar Porsche Club of America Western Michigan Region

August	6	Red Barns Spectacular Car Show & Porsche Corral - Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners, MI <i>Hosts: Amber Door and Jerry Arens</i>
	8	Monthly Board Meeting - Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	20	Gimmick Rally and Backyard Summer Bash - Rockford, MI <i>Hosts: Craig and Chris Ackerman</i>
	TBD	Dinner Drive (Location TBD) <i>Hosts: TBD</i>
September	3	Tech Session - Euro Autowerks, Rockford, MI <i>Hosts: Dan & Ren Phillips</i>
	5	IROC III Autocross (Location TBD)
	9	3rd Annual WMR Golf Outing <i>Hosts: Arnie and Val Axelrod</i>
	10-11	Grand Prix of Grattan DE - Grattan Raceway, Grattan, MI
	9-11	Boxstoberfest 2011 - Fredericksburg, TX <i>Non-PCA Event</i>
	12	Monthly Board Meeting - Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	15-18	PCA Escape 2011 - Flagstaff, AZ (<i>visit 2011escape.org</i>) <i>PCA National Event</i>
	24	Leelenau County Fall Driving Tour - Traverse City, MI <i>Host: Bill Brown</i>
October	3	Monthly Board Meeting - Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	8	Annual Fall Color Tour (Location TBD) <i>Hosts: Jim and Ardis Schaaf</i>
	16	Porsche Race Car Classic - Quail Lodge in Carmel, CA <i>Historic Porsche race cars on display from Porsche AG, and from the private collections of Jerry Seinfeld & others. (visit www.2011porscheracecarclassic.com)</i>
November	7	Annual Planning Dinner (Location TBD)
	16	Dinner Drive (Location TBD) <i>Hosts: TBD</i>
December	5	Monthly Board Meeting - Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	TBD	Annual Appetizer and Wine Party (Location TBD) <i>Hosts: TBD</i>

*Additional events happening in neighboring PCA regions will be posted within the next two months.
Additional Porsche racing events and other unique events of interest will be posted as well.*

Special Award: The 2011 WMR PCA Service Award

Gabi and Ted Blacklige

We were astonished and humbled at WinterFest, when presented with the “2010 Service Award”, designated by a marble plaque – with a beautifully etched image of our Porsche (!) - and a gift certificate to Flowerland for a specimen tree for our landscape. What a wonderful surprise to be recognized – especially since the West Michigan Region PCA Club has been and is now filled with so many members who generously and enthusiastically give their time, attention, and energy.

We would like to express our heartfelt thank-you to the Board for this honor. It is such a pleasure to participate in the activities of this club and its members. If there is anyone reading the Uber Alles who has doubt about joining this welcoming family of Porschephiles – hesitate no longer!

“It’s not just the cars, it’s the people.”

So true!

Ted Blacklige was the WMR PCA President from 2008-2009, and regularly chairs the Grattan DE event; Gabi was formerly the editor of Über Alles. The Blacklidges regularly plan, host, and even open up their home for WMR events. Their contributions to our club truly stand out!



Now on DVD! WMR PCA's 50th Anniversary DVD is now available!

Cost is \$15 each, free shipping! Download your order form from wmi.pca.org, and make your check payable to Duane Weed. Send orders to:

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(231) 937-5420
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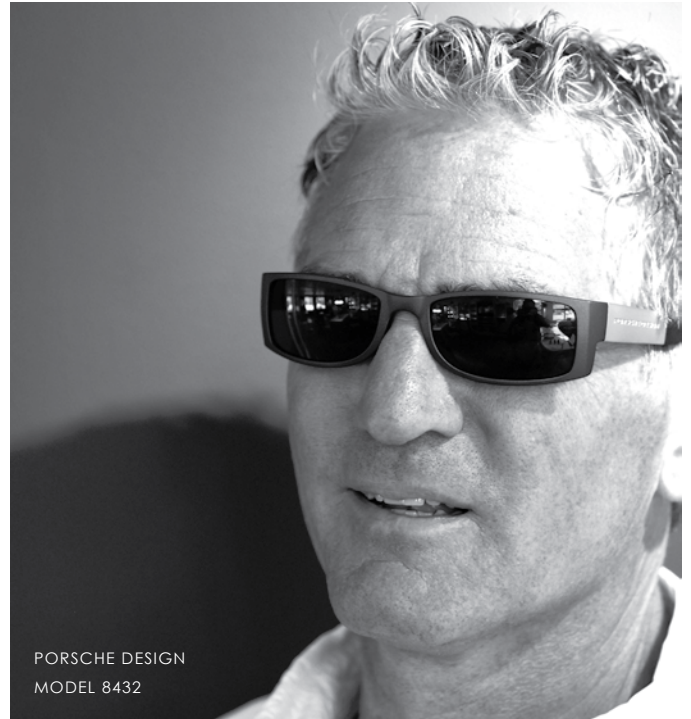
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Ted is a long-standing member and past President of Porsche Club of America, Western Michigan Region.



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TechSpalte: Cleaning and Restoring a Plastic Rear Window in a Convertible Top

Text and Photos by Dan Phillips

Our Porsche Boxster, a 1998 model, has a fantastic ‘butch’ gangster shape to the roofline when the hood (convertible top) is up, something unique to first-generation Boxsters. This was achieved with the use of a plastic rear window, which folds in half as the top is stowed. The concept of a plastic rear window - and the inherent Z-kink flaw with this particular design - is a bit anachronistic, but the price paid for the glass rear-window ‘upgrade’ in 2003 was a much more frumpy shape to the top when raised. Sure, it looked closer in shape to the car with a hardtop fitted, but nowhere near as cool-looking as the older version. And, the visibility got worse too.

But not all aspects of the plastic window will be missed. Many would not fold neatly in the center, resulting in the common ‘Z’-shaped kink that appears (and ruins) so many of these rear windows. We have to get out of the car when the top is half-way down and give a little karate-chop to the center Z-kink so the rear window folds up nicely. Could the shape have been tweaked to avoid this? Maybe it could have been designed to be removeable, and available as a service part so that it could be removed, thrown away, and replaced in a matter of minutes? Oh well...it is what it is at this point.



Note the difference between the ‘before’ and ‘after’ sections. The white-out, or ‘crazing’ band in the center has nearly disappeared as well.

Still, you can make your rear window look a whole lot better - if not brand new - without replacing the top. It just needs a good cleaning, some super-fine polishing compound and some elbow grease. This is a fairly simple, straight-forward job that a person with virtually no mechanical skills can accomplish in about an hour. You will require a polishing and cleaning compound, some clean, soft and dry cotton rags/cloths, and a micro-fiber dusting cloth. You will also need some warm water and dishsoap in a small bucket.



These specialty polishing compounds are out there in a number of variations, but I used a restoring polish from a small company called Upper Bound in Northville, MI - just search for their store and product on eBay. It comes in a small container about the same as a small lipgloss jar or Carmex tin, and there’s enough to do your rear window about 2-3 times, both sides.

A critical point here is to wait until the weather is warmer, or else do it in a heated garage after your rear window has had time to acclimatize. You can also warm up the clear plastic with a hair-dryer to make it more pliable, and thus harder to damage as you work on it. Don’t worry - the rear window is 40-gauge DOT-rated plastic, typically a vinyl-based compound. It’s very tough, but it’s still plastic, which means it has a tendency to get harder (less elastic) as it gets colder. Have you ever seen a plastic part get bent, and at the bent area the plastic turns white? This is called ‘crazing’, where the material develops a great number of extremely small micro-fissures, or cracks, internal to the material. The collection of small cracks inside the strained area can make a transparent plastic turn translucent or opaque. This is what happened to our plastic rear window when we lowered it one day when the weather (and the rear window) was just too cold. We then had a band of white across the center of the rear window about 2” wide because we basically bent the window in half when cold, causing major crazing along the fold line. Since crazing occurs on the surface as well as internal to the material thickness, a polishing compound coupled with a good cleaning can significantly reduce the crazed appearance.

First, clean the window inside and out with warm tap water and a little dish soap. To ease access, drop the top down about half way, and remove the windstop from the rollbars. You’ll be amazed at how dirty the inside of your rear window will be! Once it’s thoroughly clean, inside and out, you’ll already see a big difference. Now for the polishing compound. This will not only remove, blend and fill in micro-scratches and cracks, but also scrub any remaining nastiness off the surface. Apply by hand with one or two fingers through a soft-cotton rag in a tight swirling motion, with a hand behind your working area to support the material. The more you polish, the more you scrub, the better the outcome. It’s like taking a micro rubbing compound to the surface of the plastic.

Finally, after your polish has dried to a haze, buff it off in the same manner with a micro-fiber cloth, which will pick up any dust. It’s almost like a wax job. You’ll be amazed at the difference when you clear the haze. While the 1st application gives you the most for your time, try going through the process a couple of times, especially in problem areas. Our rear window now has almost no evidence of the crazing anymore, and basically went from 160,000 miles to about 20,000 miles in about an hour. Brilliant!



WMR Meeting Minutes, 07 February 2011

Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, February 7, 2011 – Meeting was called to order by Craig Ackerman at 7:01 pm. Members present were: Dan Phillips, Amber Door, Craig Ackerman, Ted Blacklidge, Gabi Blacklidge, Arnie Axelrod, Marshall Walters, Kurt Wirth

Minutes: Minutes from January meeting approved.

Treasurer's Report: Approved.

Membership Report: 230 Primary Members, 184 Affiliate Members – total 414. New Members – 2 Transfers In – 0. Transfers Out – 0. Non renewals – 5. Renewals – 9.

Über Alles Editor's Report: Press kit from Savannah Parade arrived. It will go in the upcoming publications.

Advertising Report: no new issues.

Webmaster's Report: no report

Insurance Report: pending upcoming moving car events. Reminder regarding availability of HPDE Insurance for DE participants.

Old Business:

- Winterfest – continue to complete final details for event on 2/19/11.
- Leo's dinner – well attended.
- North American Auto show (15 Jan) – several WMR members attended
- Annual Service Award: Enthusiast Award (event weighting, other ideas)

New Business:

- Enthusiast Trophy progress – awaiting files from designer
- PCA National HQ Update (from Ron Carr)
- PCA has purchased a building for HQ.
- Tech session --- in March??
- March event at the Grattan Bar – 3/9/11.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:59pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amber Door

Parade Registration begins March 8th!!

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**Registration opens March 8, 2011
so start planning now!**

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Join the
Fun!**



Classifieds

2001 PORSCHE 911 CARRERA 4 CABRIOLET – What can I say about this great car you don't already know? Perhaps that it has several options, like heated seats, leather front and back, black interior, electric seats, a MSRP of \$93,850 when built, Tiptronic S trans. New tires, and battery. Professionally maintained at Delta in GR and Foreign Car Service in Kalamazoo. The car was purchased out of Calif. for what it's worth. The car is a beauty with 79,000 miles. Hey, if your spouse objects, just tell her it is an small economy car with all wheel drive. \$25,950. Call Jack Vandenberg at (269) 217-3338 or Email jackvdb@gmail.com. (Jul 2010)

1996 PORSCHE 911 CABRIOLET – Polar Silver w/black top & black interior. 6-sp. factory ltd 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. Call John Weidenfeller at (616) 942-7050 (work) or (616) 540-4386 (cell) (Aug 2009)

1986 PORSCHE 944 – Guards Red. 143,500 miles. 2nd owner (purchased in 1989). Engine rebuilt by Porsche-certified mechanic at 82,725 miles (10.1995). Great-sounding and nice-looking car is improved and very competitive in autocross. Turbo front end with electrics. Expertly maintained by Claudio at Foreign Car Services. Porsche Evaluation Committee says \$10,710 is average price, asking \$9,000. Call Michael Betz at (616) 460-8880 or Email mmbetz@image-stream.com.

FOR SALE: TIRES – Two Dunlop SP Sports, 255-40-ZR 17, never mounted, excellent condition, \$150.00. Call Dave Reid at (616) 560-3583 or (517) 667-9943 (Aug 2009)

FOR SALE: 928 ENGINE – 1985 928 5.0l 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 or email for photos or a time to see the engine. No reasonable offer refused. Call (616) 893-0891 or Email sgober@mycfc.com (Aug 2009)

FOR SALE: 944 & 911 PARTS – '89 944S2: A-arms, exhaust + cat, brake rotors, calipers, torsion bars, coil-over springs 400 lb, design 90 wheels 7 + 8 x 16, CV joints w/new boots, oil coolers, steering wheel w/air bag. '86 911 (930): exhaust w/exchangers, oil lines, lower front clip w/driving lights (black), transmission gear set (1st to 4th), turbo charger, intercooler, shift lever, old-style headlights. Call Craig Ackerman at (616) 866-1905 or Email pcaackerman@aol.com (Feb 2009)

FOR RENT: HEATED (limited) OR UNHEATED SPACE – for your car. Unheated storage is \$200 for 5 months (\$40/month). For more information, call Carol Friday (PCA member for over 15 years) at (616) 863-9395 or Email bfriday@chartermi.net (Feb 2009)

AUTO DETAILING SERVICE – References available. Call or e-mail Eric at Professional Car Appearance, LLC, (616) 706-4421 or ericpca911@yahoo.com. (Feb 2010)

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