



ÜBER ALLES

Porsche Club of America, Western Michigan Region

September 2012



In this issue:

- **Pre-Grattan Weekend** – 4th Annual Golf Outing, Tech Session at Euro Autowerks
- **TechSpalte** – Optimizing your car's handling with corner balancing
- **Annual Grand Prix of Grattan** – September 15-16; register at clubregistration.net now!
- **Member Profile** – Mike Murphy and his Guards Red 944
- **Summer Event Photos** – It's been a great summer of Porsche fun!

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- 4 President's Letter
- 5 Upcoming: WMR's Pre-Grattan Weekend
- 6 Annual Grand Prix of Grattan
- 7 In Review: Gilmore Red Barns Spectacular, August DD
- 8 WMR Calendar
- 9 Upcoming: Fall Color Tour
- 10 TechSpalte: Corner Balancing
- 11 A Summer of Porsche Fun!
- 12 What Porsche Means to Me
- 13 August Meeting Minutes
- 14 Classifieds

Über Alles September 2012 Issue

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Please make checks payable to WMR PCA



Hot Summer Days to Remember in Shelbyville

John Walters
President, Western Michigan Region

Hello All,

Ackerman's Summer Party was a hoot. Craig and Chris have got hosting a party down to an art. Craig grilled hamburgers and brats, while Chris made sure everybody had what they wanted. The pool was refreshing on this hot July evening (and also was a nice backdrop for professionally mixed shots as the sun went down). Guests brought dishes to share as well -- many good tasting options! The Gilmore Car Museum's Red Barns Spectacular was a very HOT event! Turnout was a little down from last year, might have been the heat, but there were still many nice cars on display. Dan and Ren Phillips' dinner drive to Schuler's, in Marshall, was a new venue. Changing up events keeps them fresh. The carefully planned route was enjoyed by all, with many lakes and selected Porsche-quality roads. We did not go through any large towns and traffic was light. The restaurant is old school classy.

If you have any ideas for new events, please attend the Annual Planning Dinner on November 5th (or, if you can't attend, contact a board member). This club is about the people, and hosting events are important to getting us all together (and we aren't limited to only one per month.) If you are interested, there are openings for event towards the end of this year yet.

September 15-16 is time for our annual Grand Prix of Grattan DE. This is a premier track in our backyard. If you can, register to drive or just show up and watch and maybe volunteer to help the workers. And don't forget the annual color tour on October 13th -- for many of us, our babies will be put away soon afterwards. But those thoughts are for November...we have at least two more months of driving ahead of us! So, drive it like you stole it!

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1984 Porsche 911 Coupe

Upcoming Events: Pre-Grattan Weekend

07 Sep

WMR PCA's 4th Annual Golf Outing at Egypt Valley Country Club

Hosts: Arnie and Val Axelrod

Men and women are encouraged to sign up for this fun event at Egypt Valley Country Club. This is one of the finest golf courses in this part of the country. For 10 Years, EVCC hosted a PGA Champions Tour Event, and has hosted the USGA Junior Men's tournament. The course is in great shape, so come out and join us and your Western Michigan Region friends for a great round of golf. For those who wish, the patio will be open for dinner and/or drinks when we finish. Order off the menu with separate check. Cost including cart is \$80.00 per person. Credit cards only - sorry, no cash.



Reservations to Arnie at amaxelrod@att.net, or call (616) 676-1330 by 8/31. Limited spaces available. Late participants on a best-effort basis. Make your reservation early.

Time & Cost: Tee Times begin at 2:00 PM.
\$80.00 per person includes 18 holes and cart.

Location: Egypt Valley Country Club, 7333 Knapp Avenue NE, Ada, MI



08 Sep

2012 WMR PCA Open House and Porsche Tech Session at Euro Autowerks, Inc.

Host: Tim Thatcher

Join us September 8th for our Annual Open House and Tech Session. Listen and learn as Master Technician and PCA member Tim Thatcher, explains how proper tire alignment and corner balance can give you the edge in performance and safety, whether on the track or on the road.



Lunch from the grill will be served following a question and answer session. Examine the latest project car to be completed, enjoy good food, receive a free gift and participate in a drawing for some super prizes. We guarantee you will have a great time!

We are located at 9240 Belding Road (M44) between Ramsdell Rd and Grattan Raceway. Doors will open at 10AM; the Tech Session begins at 10:30AM. Please RSVP to admin@euroautowerks.com.

New Members:

Willkommen!

Ralf & Denise Ford – Traverse City, MI
1985 Porsche 911 Cabriolet

Tom & Jacqueline McDDonald – North Canton, OH
1985 Porsche 944 Turbo

September Anniversaries:

Glückwünsche!

1 year (2011) Chalkman (Roger) & Margo Chalk
Joe & Susan Gavan
Mike Starostanko

5 years (2007) Hans & Cinderella Riem

10 years (2002) Richard Cover

30 years (1982) Doug & Laurie Tepper

Upcoming Events: Annual Grand Prix of Grattan

15-16
Sep

WMR PCA's Annual Driver Education Event: Grand Prix of Grattan

Ted Blackledge, DE Chair

We welcome you to our annual Driver Education event, the annual Grand Prix of Grattan DE! If you're a novice or an expert, this is one of the best tracks to learn and practice. Don't be shy! Come out and enjoy the fun as a driver or spectator alike!

This year, registration will be exclusively through clubregistration.net. There will be no paper applications accepted this year, so if you don't already take advantage of this far-superior system, take a few minutes to set up an account and register online at clubregistration.net. REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW.

As always, all the usual tech inspections and rules apply, including the requirements for a brake fluid change within 2 months of the event, and the requirement for added rollover protection that meets the 'broomstick rule', if your car is not equipped with factory rollover protection. And as was new last year, your helmet must be rated Snell SA2005 or M2005 or newer.



Please visit www.pcahpdeins.locktonaffinity.com for information on PCA-sanctioned single event insurance coverage. If you have any questions, please contact me at (616) 866-4143 or sgrafex@chartermi.net.

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In Review: Gilmore Red Barns Spectacular

Text and Photos by Amber Door

The 4th year of the WMR PCA Porsche Car Corral at the Gilmore Car Museums Red Barns Spectacular was just as the name says, spectacular! With hundreds of cars and all of the exhibits at the museum open to explore, it was an all-day event. The weather was sunny and hot, but nice with a breeze under the canopies in the corral. Although the turnout for the corral was lower this year (due to the forecasted heat no doubt) with only 15 cars, the attendance at the event was huge! Wandering around the grounds throughout the day really brings home the fact that Michigan, despite its winter weather, is a car enthusiast's state. There were a lot of visitors throughout the day to the tent to pick up membership information and talk with members about their cars. Hopefully we will see a few new members and all of our current members will mark their calendars now for August 3, 2013!



In Review: August Dinner Drive to Schuler's

Text and Photos by Dan Phillips

A perfect day for a spirited drive with the top down greeted us on the 11th of August, with temps in the low 80s and sunshine all the way. Passing no fewer than 7 lakes and myriad small towns, our band of Porsches wound through some of the most beautiful and winding back roads in southern Michigan, finding virtually no traffic and barely even a pothole the whole way. It's been a while since we've had a driving route as enjoyable as this one – it really turned out great. After an hour and a half of roaring engines on sun-dappled back roads, we found ourselves in the picturesque and historic town of Marshall, where Schuler's Restaurant has been serving up quality meals with old-world service and charm since 1909. Our group of 17 guests enjoyed seafood, steaks, and Schuler's private-label wine in a private dining room set aside just for us. We hope you'll find the time to enjoy another great dinner drive with us soon!



2012 Calendar

Porsche Club of America

Western Michigan Region



September	7-9	Boxstoberfest 2012 – Fredericksburg, TX <i>Non-PCA Event</i>
	7	4th Annual Golf Outing – Egypt Valley Country Club, Ada, MI <i>Hosts: Arnie & Val Axelrod</i>
	8	Pre-Grattan Tech Session – Euro Autowerks, Rockford, MI <i>Host: Tim Thatcher</i>
	10	Monthly Board Meeting – Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	15-16	Grand Prix of Grattan DE – Grattan Raceway, Grattan, MI <i>Event Chair: Ted Blacklidge</i>
	21-29	Porsche Club Ocean Cup Sailing Regatta – Marmaris to Fethiye, Turkey <i>Host: Porsche Club Russland / Porsche Clubs Coordination</i>
	29-30	Cincinnati VW Club's VW-Porsche Reunion – Cincinnati, OH <i>Non-PCA Event – Cincinnati VW Club (http://cincyvwclub.com)</i>
October	1	Monthly Board Meeting – Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	4-7	Third Coast 356 Oktoberfest – Gull Lake/Richland, MI <i>Non-PCA Event – (http://www.thirdcoast356oktoberfest.org)</i>
	13	Annual Fall Color Tour – Location TBD <i>Hosts: Jim & Ardis Schaaf, Len & Bonnie Gawron</i>
	20	New Member Lunch – Dill's German Restaurant, Middleville, MI <i>Host: Len Gawron</i>
November	5	Annual Planning Dinner – Location TBD
	8-11	PCA Escape 2012 – Eureka Springs, AR <i>PCA National Event (http://www.pca.org/Activities/Escape.aspx)</i>
	TBD	November Dinner Drive – Location TBD <i>Host: TBD</i>
December	3	Monthly Board Meeting – Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	8	December Appetizer Party – Shelbyville, MI <i>Hosts: John & Marshall Walters</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>.

Upcoming Events: Annual Fall Color Tour

13 Oct

WMR PCA's Annual Fall Color Tour

Hosts: Jim & Ardis Schaaf, Len & Bonnie Gawron

Once again, it's been a terrific summer in West Michigan.

True enough, but now let's look ahead. No, not so far forward as to get yourself mired in the snowy mess of another Michigan winter, just far enough ahead to see the beautiful colors of fall in West Michigan.

Again, thinking ahead, there you sit, it is a beautiful Saturday afternoon, 13 October and your Porsche is clean, fueled and ready for a drive. You look beside you and see the person that has helped to make all of this possible over those many years, and the two of you are about to head out with other like-minded folks for the annual WMR PCA Fall Color Tour and Dinner Drive. This year, rather than heading miles and hours up the west coast shoreline, let's take a drive through the countryside's of Allegan and Fennville, enjoy a stop at Fenn Valley Winery for a taste of the vineyards finest offerings and then drive along even more beautiful back roads to Holland for a fine dinner at The Boatwerks Restaurant on beautiful Lake Macatawa (www.boatwerksrestaurant.com).

Sounds good doesn't it! So mark your calendars, wash and fuel the Porsche and join your Porsche friends for what promises to be a colorful drive through west Michigan followed a fine dinner and conversation.

Let us know that you can make it by responding to Jim & Ardis Schaaf (dogzan2@aol.com) or Len & Bonnie Gawron (lagawron@comcast.net). We hope to see you all on the 13th!



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TechSpalte: A Brief Overview of Corner Balancing

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

One of the best things you can do to improve your car's handling is to have it corner balanced.

What is corner balancing? It is making sure that the vehicle's weight is distributed evenly on all four tires. If you've ever sat on a chair that had one leg shorter than the others, you know how unstable that can be. The same effect happens with your vehicle when the weight is not equally distributed. The two greatest benefits of tire balancing are improved handling in corners and under braking.

Here are some key reasons you should have your vehicle balanced:

- You change suspension components.
- Weight is added or subtracted from the vehicle.
- If you've never had it done before (since suspension components do settle or change over time)
- To maintain your car's handling, you may want to have it done after a set period of time, say once per year.

Can all cars be balanced? No, but it can be done on most performance cars and should be done if possible. You will appreciate the way your car handles after having it balanced.

If you are interested in learning more about corner balancing, we invite you to attend the Corner Balancing Tech Session we will be holding at our Open House on Saturday, September 8, 2012. (See page 5)



A Summer of Porsche Fun!

Contributed by Dan Phillips

Spring-Up to Traverse, 23 June 2012



Getting ready to roll at Clinch Park Marina



Handbuilt created the Boxster S 550 Spyder



Taking a breather at Shanty Creek



The Klunks take a break & enjoy the view



Our host Denny Weise



Lovely ladies, lovely cars!

Summer Bash, 28 July 2012



Group photo as the sun sets



Grillmaster & host Craig Ackerman



The Ackerman's beautiful driveway



Cooling off around the pool



Rick Riley, Ted Blackledge, Paul Thieme



The party rolls on as Dan serves up shots

Member Profile: What Porsche Means to Me

Contributed by Mike Murphy

What does Porsche mean to me?

My earliest recollection of Porsche is of a mid-fifties 356 Cabriolet. The car was owned by a fellow airman from somewhere in Texas. We were stationed at Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Arizona, and we explored the desert roads in this car.

Up to this point I was a confirmed Corvette fan, determined to have one of those plastic fantastic Chevrolets. But that Porsche sure was interesting.

Fast forward to the late sixties...no, there was no Corvette in my garage, or in my foreseeable future. As I recall, the insurance was the biggest problem.

Rumors had started that Porsche would be introducing an entry level mid-engine car, the 914. I followed every bit of information that leaked out about this car and liked what I read, even the use of a VW engine.

My first look was at a factory demo car, and my mind was made up. A couple of months later a yellow 914-4 with appearance group was in my garage and on the road at every opportunity. For two years, driving anywhere was an absolute delight. Many hours were spent reading about the Porsche family, the company, and its history. Here was a car and name that was very different, perhaps for me it was the human element of the entire thing.

Practical issues came pressing however, and after those two great years, a sedan replaced the 914. I watched with sadness and regret as the new owner drove his Porsche away.

Nearing retirement and a flirtation with a return to motorcycling (that met with severe disapproval from my dear wife Kathy), I once again looked to Porsche.



Finding a very good example of an 83 NA 944 locally, I essentially stole the car. Every chance I get I'm behind the wheel and having a great time.

So, what does Porsche mean to me? Well, I guess for me the word is demanding. The car demands you be involved. It cannot be avoided and it results in a thoroughly enjoyable experience.



WMR Meeting Minutes, 06 Aug 2012

Delta Imports, Grand Rapids August 6, 2012 – Meeting was called to order by John Walters at 7:00 pm. Members present were: John Walters, Marshall Walters, Amber Door, Ted Blacklidge, Gabi Blacklidge, Rick Riley, Kurt Wirth, Len Gawron, Daniel Bird

Treasurer's Report: Approved

Membership Report: Primary Members – 219; Affiliate Members – 168; – total 387; New Members – 2; Transfers In – 0; Transfers Out – 0; Non renewals – 6; Renewals – 8

Minutes: Minutes from July meeting approved.

Über Alles Editor's Report: Continue with 16-page publication for September. Still room for additional advertisers.

Webmaster's Report: No report. Web site is up to date

Insurance Report: August events are completed. Working on September events.

Old Business:

- July 28 – WMR Summer Party – Craig/Chris Ackerman
- Aug 4 – Red Barn Spectacular @ Gilmore – Amber Door/Jerry Arens
- Aug 11 – Dinner Drive to Schuler's – Dan/Ren Phillips

New Business:

- Aug 26 – IROC III WMR Autocross – US 131 Motorsport Park
- 2013 Winterfest – will start looking at venues
- Nov 5 – Planning meeting – John to contact Bistro Bella Vita
- September dinner drive – TBD
- Grattan – Sept 15-16
- New Member Lunch – Oct. 20 - @ Dill's
- 2013 Porsche Parade - update

Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm

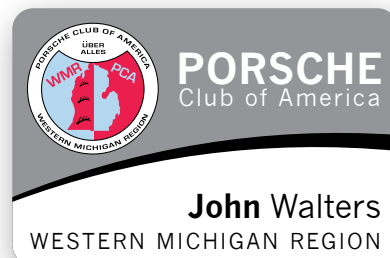
Respectfully submitted by Amber Door

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Classifieds

2000 PORSCHE BOXSTER – 9456 miles. Over \$8000 exclusive options: Artic silver, sport package, Nephrite Green special leather, 17” Sport Classic wheels, stainless door sills. Flawless. \$16,000. Contact Frank Wosek at (231) 264-5120 or email Diane Wosek at dfwosek@gmail.com. Former PCA and WMI members. (Aug 2012)

1989 PORSCHE 911 TURBO – Linen Metallic (silver) over grey leather interior. 115k miles, 2nd owner, service by German Auto for the past 14 years. Many mods, very fast. Divorce forces sale. \$38,000. Contact Al Nelson at (231) 690-9092 or email i.xlr8@live.com. (that’s the letter “i”, a period, followed by “xlr8”) (Dec 2011)

1987 PORSCHE 911 TURBO CABRIOLET – Factory slant-nose (one of 216 real 505 factory built and documented), pristine all-original condition, black on black, with Porsche certificate of authenticity. Contact Frank Berris at (616) 887-0956 or email fgberris@americango.biz (July 2011)

1985-1/2 PORSCHE 944 – Great 1st Porsche and beginning autocross or track car. Roll bar, Dino steering wheel, Recaro driver’s seat, 17” Cup wheels with Kumho Cector Racer tires. 5-point harnesses plus stock belts. HD springs & swaybars, Koni adjustable shocks, more. Asking \$5,495 OBO. Contact Jim Morgan at (574) 457-2044 or email jimandjudi@hoosier-link.net. (Michiana Region PCA) (Aug 2012)

1972 PORSCHE 914 PARTS – We have a 1972 914 parts car with complete engine & transmission. Also most other parts. Also have a four-cylinder short block and additional 914 parts. Let us know what you need. Contact Randy Portoluri at (616) 842-9266 or email lindaportoluri@charter.net. (Sep 2012)

1989 PORSCHE 944S2 RACE CAR – PCA Stock E Class. Well-maintained and less than 10 hours on rebuilt engine. Recaro seat, B&B exhaust, 2 sets of 3-piece wheels (BBS & Forgeline), full cage, Bilstein coil-overs, Fabcar A-arms, quick-release steering wheel...to name just a few items. Comes with spare parts. Also available is a 24-foot Wells Cargo trailer, 5,000-lb axles, diamond plate floor, tire rack, winch and storage container. Contact Craig Ackerman at (616) 866-1905 or email pcaackerman@aol.com. (Sep 2012)

WHEELS AND TIRES – 16” factory wheels & tires from a Porsche 911 (993), sizes are 205/55-16 front, 245/45-16 rear. \$500 o.b.o. Call Glenn at (269) 751-5644. (July 2011)

911MAX MULTI-CHIP – Fits 1984-1989 Porsche 911. Multiple mappings, including Stock, 93 Octane, Valet (3,000 RPM limit) and No-Start, easily modifiable via external switch, customizable via software. Works w/either 24 or 28-pin DMEs. Price reduced - now only \$100! Call Greg Calahan at (616) 617-0369 or email greg@cerulean-group.com. (June 2011)

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

WANTED – PCM 1st-generation CD-ROMs to copy; I have discs 1, 5, & 6, need the rest. Need maps 1, 5, or 6? I can help. These are NLA from Porsche. Call Dan Phillips at (616) 281-2459 or email dphil66@hotmail.com.

NEW CLASSIFIED AD LAYOUT AND CAPABILITY STARTING NEXT MONTH’S ISSUE:

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Members must contact editor to renew. Editor reserves right to edit ads. Please refer to fee schedule and specifics on page 3.

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– Ted & Gabriele Blacklidge, WMR, PCA

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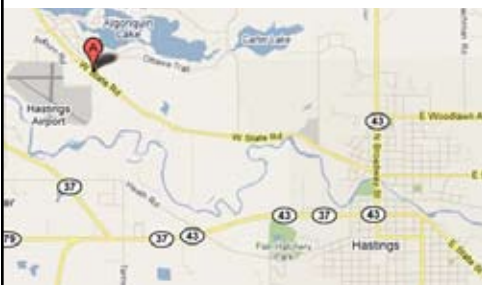
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