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# ÜBER ALLES

### Über Alles October 2013 Issue

Plublished monthly by the Western Michigan Region of the Porsche Club of America

Please send submissions and advertising content by the 21st of each month to:

Daniel N. Phillips 2676 Briarwood Ct SE Kentwood, MI 49512 dphil66@hotmail.com phone (616) 281-2459

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Note: Color ads receive premier placement. Contact editor for exact size requirements.

Please make checks payable to WMR PCA

On the Cover: Porsche L20E Signal Orange; Vintage 911s at the St. John Concours d'Elegance (formerly Meadowbrook); Photo by Amber Door



### **Autumn Colors are Showing!**

John Walters President, Western Michigan Region

The Grand Prix of Grattan DE had a large turnout at sixty plus drivers (including one very fast Viper – first one off the new Detroit assembly line). That is about twice drivers as many last year, and the instructors were kept very busy with the sixteen novices. Mothernature cooperated with a beautiful sunny and cool Saturday, albeit some rain on Sunday. After some prodding, Marshall and I did the parade laps at noon on Saturday. This was our first time on a track. The experience was thrilling even at slow speed. We look forward to getting some instruction and learning how to really drive a car on the track (and road)! And everyone seemed to enjoy the post-race dinner of pizza and various beverages. Thank-you to all who participated (drivers and volunteers) and made this year's DE a very successful event.

With the trees beginning to show color down state, by October 5th in the Traverse City area, the views should be spectacular. Hope you can make the Annual Fall Color Tour with first time host(ess) Patti Pelizzari. Unfortunately, after this event, many of us will be putting our "babies" away until spring.

The annual planning meeting will be held on November 4th. If you have a suggestion for our designated charity for 2014, or if you'd like to host (or help host) an event, please join us (all members are welcome (to all board meetings), and, of course, the planning meeting includes dinner!). If you can't make the planning meeting, please contact a board member with your suggestions. If you'd like to host an event, the specific date and location don't need to be determined by meeting time (although specifying the month is helpful). We often have more than one event per month, so don't be shy! And if you'd like to host an event, but not sure what it entails, there are many "event experienced" members that can help you out. And events aren't limited to dinner drives, as can be attested to by those who attended the sporting clays event in May!

And don't forget about the board member elections – voting will likely be done on-line, so please make sure your PCA profile includes your current e-mail address (a large number of e-mail blasts get kicked back each time a board member sends one out). And finally...congratulations to members **Colin and Jill Carpenter** on their WMR PCA **25-year anniversary**!!

### Officers



President:
John Walters
2578 Selkirk Lake Dr
Shelbyville, MI 49344-9525
(269) 672-5055
jwalters@wmis.net
1988 Porsche 911 Coupe



Vice President:
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935 Sterling Ct
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2012 Porsche 911 Coupe



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(269) 370-9183
blue911rsr@charter.net
1995 Porsche 993 'The Beast'



**Treasurer: Amber Door**645 Summerset Dr.
Jenison, MI 49428-7938
(616) 457-4515
amdoor242@aol.com
1984 Porsche 911 Coupe

### **Upcoming Events: Annual Fall Color Tour**

#### 05 Oct

#### **Annual Fall Color Tour**

Host: Patti Pelizzari

For this year's Fall Color Tour, WMR PCA drivers will meet between 10-10:30 am at MFD Classic Motors at 1701 Park Drive, Traverse City (near Art Van on South Airport). Departure by 10:30 am for the tour.

The group will drive west through Lake Ann, then continue north, crossing the "land bridge" between Big and Little Glen Lakes. We'll visit Glen Haven and continue on for lunch at The Homestead, just north of the village of Glen Arbor.



An optional and highly recommended visit after lunch would be the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive in Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore Park. Please be aware that there is a \$10 charge to enter. Beautiful roads and places to stop, hike, take photos, etc. A difficult place to stay together, however!

<u>Please RSVP by Wednesday, 02 October</u> to Patti or Jim Pelizzari at pattymouse115@hotmail.com or jimpelizzari@gmail.com.

When: Saturday, 05 October 2013, 10:00 am

Where: GRAG / MFD Classic Motors, 1701 Part Dr, Traverse City, MI

### **Upcoming Events: Annual Planning Dinner**

#### 04 Nov

#### **Annual November Planning Dinner**

Host: WMR PCA Board of Directors

All year long, often more than once per month, we gather to celebrate our shared passion for the experience and joy of driving Porsches. We drive, we compete, we tour, we rally...we volunteer for the club, we give back to our community...we eat, drink, and find merriment together...we share stories, we laugh, we talk shop...we enjoy friendships both old and new, friendships that often last a lifetime, bonds we forge as members of this club. Together we make it what it is.

To that end, we invite you to join us this November 5th to plan our next year together. You can count on a great dinner at Bistro Bella Vita in downtown Grand Rapids, participate in a brief board meeting prior to dinner, and after dinner help us determine the calendar and course of our club for the coming year.



Have an idea for an event? Want to host an event? Want to volunteer to help, as little or as much as you want? Want to eat, drink, and be merry? Don't be shy!

<u>Please RSVP by Friday, 01 November</u> to John & Marshall Walters at (269) 672-5055 or email jwalters@wmis.net (John) or marshall.walters@towerswatson.com (Marshall).

When: Monday, 04 November 2013, 6:00 pm

Where: Bistro Bella Vita, 44 Grandville Ave, Grand Rapids, MI www.bistrobellavita.com

### Upcoming Events: November Dinner 'Drive'

15 Nov

November Dinner 'Drive' to Salt & Pepper Savory Pub & Grill, Holland, MI

Hosts: Amber Door & Jerry Arens

November in Michigan brings a change in our weather, winter slumber for many of our Porsches and a gearing up for the upcoming busy holiday season. Mark your calendar to join us for dinner and conversation to celebrate the 2013 summer driving season, "mourn" the upcoming winter driving season and enjoy the company of fellow WMR members.

We are headed to Salt & Pepper Savory Pub and Grill in Holland. It is a casual restaurant featuring a diverse selection of foods from an adventurous American pub menu.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, 13 November to Amdoor242@aol. com, or call (616) 340-0971 (Amber) or (616) 340-2912 (Jerry).





Where:

11539 East Lakewood Blvd Holland, MI

Salt & Pepper Savory Pub & Grill

Just 1/2 mile east of US-31

Friday, 15 November 2013, 7:30 pm

When:

Visit their web page at: saltandpepperpub.com

### Chairpersons

Über Alles Editor: Dan Phillips (616) 281-2459 dphil66@hotmail.com

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Safety Chair: Craig Ackerman (616) 866-1905 pcaackerman@aol.com

Historian & Insurance Coordinator: Kurt Wirth (616) 956-0249 kurtwirthsc356@comcast.net

Membership Chair: Jerry Arens (616) 457-4515 idarens62@aol.com

Registrar: Amber Door (616) 457-4525 amdoor242@aol.com

WMR Enthusiast: Marshall Walters (269) 672-5055 marshall.walters@towerswatson.com

Zone 4 Representative: Ron Carr (740) 967-6027 zone4rep@embarqmail.com

### Ruby Turns 200: Passion Meets Reliability

Contributed by Dan Phillips, WMR PCA Member and Über Alles Editor

Two hundred thousand miles. Ponder that distance for a moment. It's 40,000 trips to your local grocery store. It's Grand Rapids to Traverse City and back again over 700 times. It's Grand Rapids to Los Angeles, round trip, almost 50 times. It's 8 complete trips around the globe. It's only 38,900 miles short of a trip to the moon. The moon.

Now, if we're talking about records, Irv Gordon's 1966 Volvo 1800 S coupe holds the world record for miles on a single passenger car at 2.9 million. That's pretty amazing. But I don't doubt a Porsche could beat that; there are examples of Porsches with over a half-million miles on them.

200,000 miles is proclaimed the 'new normal' by the likes of Time magazine and the New York Times, among others. Americans are keeping their cars longer now. The average age of vehicles on America's roads is 11.1 years, up from an average of 8 years in 1995. Data suggest that multiple deep recessions and the current soft economy has changed spending patterns, as consumers are increasingly assigning more value to long-term durability and reliability. Evolving technology, new materials, and better engineering have helped increase the useful life of today's cars.

However, Ruby is not a new car. Far from it. Born in December of 1997 as a 1998 model year Porsche Boxster, Ruby spent her first 8+ years mostly sitting in an elderly man's garage in Colorado, accumulating a mere 10,297 miles in that time. After 7+ years in our stable, she's crossed over the magic 200,000 mile marker.

We follow the factory maintenance schedule (15k oil changes), always use factory parts (even filters & plugs), and Mobil 1. Other than normal wear items (and things I broke), only the alternator and windshield have been replaced. How can this be? We drive the heck out of this car. I even do donuts with it in the winter! (You haven't lived...)



Then: New to us, and nearly new

Ruby is only on her 3rd set of front brakes, 2nd set of rears, & I lost track of how many tires. But incredibly, she maintains her *original* factory clutch. This is now a point of pride, almost a contest to see just how much further it will



go. Another big surprise is that we have <u>never</u> had a rear main seal (RMS) leak. As an engineer, I know that driving it almost every day for all those miles is certainly a factor.

Ruby has seen it all. Driven daily, all year-round, she endured a daily commute from Grand Rapids to Kalamazoo for years, including the dreaded Allegan county corridor in the dead of winter. Michelin Alpin winter tires, a hardtop, and 150 lbs of kitty litter in the rear trunk make her a veritable snowmobile in the winter, outclassing most 4WD/AWD SUVs with their all-season tires. Never once in the ditch, she's been a dependable companion.

Coming into her 7th Michigan winter, she'll surely be caked with salt for weeks at a time, as she only gets washed every few weeks in the winter. She shows not a speck of rust on her galvanized steel and aluminum body. Her stainless exhaust system is still silver and clean, and her underbody is holding strong against the elements.

She's no show queen. She has character. She has personality. Even the driver's seat is custom fit to Ren's backside by now. Ruby is like a well-worn baseball mitt or a favorite pair of shoes – the perfect feel, the perfect fit, and not easily replaced. And she can still lead a drive where the pilot of a Turbo behind us exclaimed, "Wow, that was a... spirited drive...I had no idea a Boxster was that quick!"

Shall we go 200 more? Sounds like a great idea...



Now: Our well-worn, trusted friend

### 2013 Calendar Western Michigan Region Porsche Club of America





September	28	September Dinner Drive – Joe's Bar & Grill, South Haven, MI Hosts: Randy & Linda Portoluri
October	5	New Member Breakfast – Grand Rapids Auto Gallery, Traverse City, MI Hosts: WMR PCA and GRAG
	5	Annual Fall Color Tour – Traverse City, MI Host: Patti Pelizzari
	7	Monthly Board Meeting – Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI
	24-29	PCA Escape 2013 – Los Angeles, CA
		PCA National Event (http://www.pca.org/Activities/Escape.aspx)
November	4	Annual Planning Dinner – Bistro Bella Vita, Grand Rapids, MI
	15	November Dinner Drive – Salt & Pepper Savory Pub, Holland, MI Host: Amber Door & Jerry Arens
December	2 7	Monthly Board Meeting – Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI December Appetizer Party – West Olive, MI Hosts: Mike & Barb Karluk

**New Members:** Willkommen!

Patricia & Chris Guntern – Alto. MI 2012 Porsche 911 2013 Porsche Cayenne

Jack & Kathleen Hartman – Portage, MI 2013 Porsche 911

Susan Hessler - Grand Rapids, MI 2013 Porsche 911

Christopher Etzler & Arica Eshelman – Traverse City, MI (transfer, Orange Coast) 1980 Porsche 911

**October Anniversaries:** Glückwünsche!

5 years (2008) **Bret Ketner** 

> Matt & Randy Kortering Tim Reid & Karen Edwards

15 years (1998) Ola & Agneta Wettergren

20 years (1993)

Dominek

Mark Rosenbaum & Eleanor

25 years (1988)

Colin & Jill Carpenter

Dear Foreign Car Services customer,

We've moved and are now open at our expanded new location, 8730 Shaver Road in Portage, Michigan. We're excited about working on your fine car in our new facility. Our number remains (269) 342-6994.

Please stop by and visit, & look for the announcement of our Grand Opening celebration coming soon! https://www.facebook.com/ForeignCarServices

German Auto Service has moved!

Just kidding...but they did move way back in 1961. We've just added the May 1961 issue of the WMR PCA newsletter to wmr.pca.org, scanned from the 52-yearold original, once forgotton but now found! Check out the excellent hand-drawn ad on page 6 showing the map of when Erich Bechler moved the German Car Service shop from 705 Eastern to 926 Wealthy!

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Congratulations to our 'first lady' Marshall on her new Cayman!



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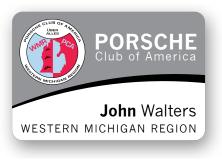
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## Get your WMR PCA Name Badge!

These are very high-quality name badges, permanently printed on a sturdy framed plate. The magnetic attachment won't damage your clothes. Cost is \$15 each, free shipping! Please send your check and correct name spelling to:

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

Hand Polish - \$129 OR Machine Wax - \$60









### In Review: Annual Grand Prix of Grattan DE Event

Text by Ted Blacklidge; Photos by Amber Door and Mike Murphy

THANK YOU EVERYONE – volunteers and participants – you made 2013 a successful event!

These invaluable committee volunteers: Craig Ackerman, Jerry Arens, Michael Betz, Colin Carpenter, Amber Dorr, Craig Paull, Rick Riley, Don Sazema, Terry & Dorilee Schieble, Eric & Lina Spross, John & Marshall Walters, plus several volunteer driving instructors, made the event run like a well-oiled machine. And we know how well those run, don't we?

Mother Nature gave us a perfect day on Saturday – sunny, mid 60's – and we took full advantage of the gift with the capability of including a 5th run group and extending the runs until 5:30! Pizza, beer, wine and enthusiastic conversation ended the evening on a "high" note.

Much to our delight, this year the student class was full, with a waiting list. Students expressed excitement about their first Grattan experience, confirming the sentiment, "Every Porsche ever made is a racecar."

Sunday offered drivers a different experience – cool and intermittent rain. Some of our drivers found themselves stopping to "smell the roses" off the track. Rain is a great equalizer.

We had in excess of 60 participants driving primarily Porsches; however, a large group of Mustangs joined the fun. Also represented on the track - BMW, Corvette, Viper, Volkswagen, Mitsubishi, Audi and Lotus. All you Porsche club members – encourage your friends with other sporty cars to participate next year!

Again, thank you all! Ted Blacklidge, Grattan Committee Chair



Suiting up before take off!

A silver bullet on the front straight



Cayman S doing what it was always meant to do



Craig Ackerman, Michael Betz, Rick Riley, and Ted Blacklidge



Dorilee Schieble waves the checkered flag



## TechSpalte: Purchasing a Porsche, for Investment or Enjoyment

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

Around this time of Year, as we prepare to put our cars away for the winter, some of us may be tempted to purchase another one as an investment, or possibly update to a newer car. In either case, I have a few thoughts I'd like to share with you.

#### Investment

If you are considering a purchase for investment purposes, you cannot beat the 356 and early 911s. The value of each has gone up to the point where most people can no longer afford them, and if they do buy one they are afraid to drive it. Many of these cars have gone into private collections.

If you are considering purchasing one of these cars, be very careful. Check the pedigree of the car, and if it has been restored, have an expert check for the correctness of the restoration. If it looks like you're getting a good deal, have it checked again. While the market for various cars can sometimes be difficult to measure, I feel these cars may be getting to the top of their value.



'79 930, formerly owned by Bill Gates

Some of the cars which are still going up or holding their value very well are the SC911s and the 3.2 Carreras. The value of these cars has been increasing rapidly and currently offer the best bang for your money, with

potential to increase in value. Specialty cars like the GT, RS, or Turbo model cars always hold their value better.

#### Purchase

Looking to purchase a new car? Keep in mind that in the first year, most new cars lose 20% of their value; often times higher priced cars can even lose more. In the second year of ownership, the car will continue to lose another 15 to 20% of it's value, adding up to approximately a 35% loss of value by the end of the second year.

I believe the solution to avoid such a loss is as simple as purchasing a 2 year old car. This practice seems a lot more economically sound than buying new. A 2 year old car will most likely have very low mileage, should still look and smell new, and will have plenty of factory warranty left.

In addition, with the car well maintained, you should lose no more than 7 to 10% of the purchase value from that point on each year.



A modern-day specialty model, the Boxster Spyder

#### The Bottom Line – Getting the Best Bang For Your Buck

Want something newer? It's hard to beat purchasing a 2 year old car that has been well maintained. Looking to invest? To find a car that will hold it's own or possibly go up in value without breaking the bank, look at the 3.0 SC, 3.2 Carreras and the last of the air cooled 911s.

Remember, there are no guarantees. All we can do is study history and current trends, then project them out into the future. In the end, we have to balance desire with common sense to make a decision we can both afford and live with.

#### Finally...

I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to Dan Phillips, Editor of our newsletter, for his patience, input and organization of our column. Dan has a gift in finding just the right picture to go along with the subject, making the article so much more interesting. We sincerely appreciate the fine work Dan had done on the Über Alles, and will miss his contribution when he steps down.

I'd also like to thank Clyde Sinclair, who mans our office in the afternoons for his contribution. At the beginning of each month, Clyde encourages (forces) me to sit at my desk, put pen to paper, and provide a new column. Once I have completed the article, he proceeds to translate it from technical language into something more enjoyable.

Thanks guys!



## WMR Meeting Minutes, 09 September 2013

Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, September 9, 2013 – Meeting was called to order by John Walters at 7:00 pm. Members present were: John Walters, Marshall Walters, Brenda Hildon-Kaempf, Dan Phillips, Wolfgang Hofmann, Jerry Arens, Amber Door, Rick Riley, Gabi Blacklidge, Ted Blacklidge, Colin Carpenter, Arnie Axelrod

#### Welcome:

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u> Approved.

<u>Membership Report:</u> Primary Members – 257; Affiliate Members –193; Total – 450; New Members – 3; Transfers In – 1; Transfers Out – 0; Non renewals – 1; Renewals –14

Minutes: Minutes from August meeting approved.

<u>Uber Alles Editor's Report:</u> Wolfgang Hoffmann has expressed desire to become the new Über Alles Editor with the January 2014 publication. He will work with Dan Phillips for a smooth transition.

Webmaster' Report: No report.

*Insurance Report:* Grattan Insurance is complete. Pending insurance for 9/28 and 10/5 events.

#### Old Business:

- August 24th Dinner Drive & After Party: Host Dan & Ren Phillips, Craig and Chris Ackerman. Well attended event. Many
  positive comments on the drive route.
- August 25th IROC III, the annual WMR Autocross US 131 Motorsports Park, Martin, MI. Best turnout in the last few years. On target to make small profit. Plan to use US 131 Motorsports Park again in 2013 --- tentatively set for 8/24/14.
- WMR Charity: Discussion regarding Charity options for 2014-2015 discussed. Request suggestions with specific information regarding Charity be submitted to Board for consideration by November Planning meeting.
- 2014 board elections: Board elections -- specifically open VP position by the end of the year. Plan for voting electronically via (?) Survey Monkey. Open positions to be placed in Über Alles.

#### New Business:

- September 14-15th Grand Prix of Grattan: Registration going well. All student spots filled. No new issues. Full report at October meeting.
- September 20th, 5th Annual Golf Outing Egypt Valley Country Club, hosts Arnie & Val Axelrod. 6 signed up to date. Region wide blast going out this week as a reminder
- September 28th Dinner Drive Joe's Bar & Grill, South Haven, MI, hosts Randy & Linda Portoluri. On schedule. Region wide blast reminder to go out prior to event.
- New Member Cars/Coffee (Jerry Arens): Planned for 10/5/13, 0900 at Grand Rapids AG-TC/MFD Classic Motors in Traverse City. Notices have gone out to new members from the last 16 months. This will be the starting point of the Fall Color Tour.
- Fall Color Tour (Patty Pelizzari): Finishing up the final details. She will have the information in for the October Über and the website in the very near future. Starting location Grand Rapids AG-TC/MFD Classic Motors in Traverse City -- Not Clinch Park as in the past.
- Winterfest 2014 Tentative date is 2/22/14. Tentative location Cascade Country Club. Planning is underway. Confirmation of date and venue should be available by the end of this week. Further information to follow.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Hildon-Kaempf



### Classifieds

**2000 PORSCHE 911 CABRIOLET** – 6 speed manual, black on black, 10,000 miles on a new set of Michelin Pilot Sport AS Plus, new battery, a few cosmetic road marks in the front, interior in good shape. It runs and handles excellent, everything

works, no leaks, 81,000 miles, asking \$22,000. Feel free to contact me for more photos. Located in Northport, MI – just 35 miles from the 2013 Porsche Parade! Contact Norm Golm at (231) 386-5857 or email ncgolm@gmail.com. (June 2013)



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, adjustable swaybars, camber plates, quick release steering wheel. Spare parts included. 39,800 miles. Asking \$19,000. Call Craig Ackerman at (616) 866-1905 or email pcaackerman@aol.com. (Aug 2013)

1969 PORSCHE 911 T COUPE – Serial #119122121. Excellent condition ,garaged winters, cream yellow, restored 4 years ago, upgraded to S specs. Vented brake rotors & lines, Fuchs wheels, PMO carburetors, MSD ignition, Weltmeister suspension upgrades (CamberMeister strut brace, front & rear torsion, sway bars, bushings & tie rods), Koni shocks. New dashboard, windshield, internal antenna & booster, and even a battery tender installed. Also has electric S mirrors, sunroof, electric door locks, S front air dam, and a mahogany steering wheel & shift knob. Porsche certified mechanical work always. Located in Kalamazoo. Contact Diane Parish at (269) 544-2674, or email didee73@msn.com. (May 2013)



1987 PORSCHE 924S PARTS – On 11-1-11 my 1987 924S (most parts fit 944) was destroyed. Parting it out. Here is a basic list: Glass lift gate, Transmission, Engine Computer, Cam shaft, Re-conditioned Head with new valves (5000 miles since the head had been redone), Manifold, Fuel Rail w/Injectors, Doors and much more. Have full list upon request. Please contact Duane Weed at (231) 250-9624, or email duane@dwvideo.com. (Aug 2013)

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)

**PORSCHE 928 ACCESSORIES** – Bra for Porsche 928 (pre-'87 front end), very good condition, only \$45. Two original equipment wheels from 1982 928, 'phone dial' style, \$50 for the pair. Contact Jim Schaaf at (231) 759-7360 (home) or (727) 688-2486 (mobile), or email dogzan2@aol.com. (Oct 2013)

**WANTED** – Set of tires (205 55/R16 & 225 50/R16) to be used for DE events for my 1980 911SC (stock 6" and 7" Fuchs). Please contact Kevin Pinner at klpinner@gmail.com. (May 2013)

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





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