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OCT
2015



Über Alles

Porsche Club of America, Western Michigan Region

Let's Get Together:

Fall Color Tour

2016 Planning Dinner

In Review:

2015 Grattan

Grand Prix Recap

September Dinner Drive

Rennsport V Preview



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IGNITION

OCTOBER, 2015



A TALE OF TWO PORSCHEs

Ron and Greg Koenig stand in front of their Porsche Cayennes. Ron owned the yellow one (right, "Sand Yellow") initially, but never joined the Porsche Club until he purchased the green model (left, "Peridot Metallic"). Greg acquired the yellow Cayenne from his father, so we now have a two-generation Cayenne family!

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Über Alles

Porsche Club of America, Western Michigan Region

On the cover:
*Andy Boesky's '96 · 993
taking a break on a
road less traveled,
near Fennville, MI*

Photo by
Dr. Andy Boesky

SHOCK WAVES

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Mike Karluk
*President,
Western Michigan Region*

At the time of writing, WMR PCA has held two great events in September. The Grand Prix of Grattan DE drew a good field with the largest percentage of Porsches in recent years for a great, if somewhat chilly, weekend of performance driving. Drivers from the WMR, SEM, RSR, and Chicago regions, as well as entrants driving

some hot Detroit and Japanese steel, enjoyed a spirited and drama-free two days on Grattan's challenging course. My 911 stands as humble testament to the quality of Porsche build given that my doors remained on the car despite the shock waves created by the Bob Stander, Rick Riley, Jason Chamness, and virtually everyone else blowing past me.

My return to DE's after a two-year absence reminded me that the "sport" aspect of motorsport is about more than simply competitive spirit. It is about the integration of mental and physical skills and stamina that dull if not honed by continued practice and effort. The weekend also reinforced respect for the marque engendered by the competitiveness of models ranging

from 356's to 914's to 944's and 968's to Boxsters and Caymans to 911's that validated the claim that "every Porsche ever made is a race car." Kudos to Ted and Gabi Blacklidge, Terry Schieble, Amber Door, Craig Ackerman, Eric Spross, and all the other WMR volunteers for organizing a safe and well-run weekend. Thanks also to Kurt Wirth for his behind the scenes work as the WMR Insurance Coordinator.

The second event, Dan and Ren Phillip's Dinner Drive was very well attended, with 57 registrants and 30 cars in the Porsche caravan. The staff at River House Ada handled the gathering smoothly and dessert at the Phillips' new home afterwards was the proverbial icing on the cake!

I look forward to reporting next month about the Teen Street Survival Program that WMR PCA is cohosting with BMW CCA on Oct. 4 and hope it's a great beginning to an important annual event for the club. Please come to the Annual Planning Dinner on Nov. 2 (watch for details at wmr.pca.org) if you wish to host an event in 2016 or are interested in becoming a Board member, an officer, or editing Über Alles and the web page in the future. Our club thrives because of the talent, creativity, and energy of its members. Let your light shine! — *Mike*

OFFICERS

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Mike Karluk
President,
2001 Porsche 911 Turbo

9342 Whispering Sands Dr.
West Olive, MI 49460
mbkmd9198@charter.net



John Walters
Past President,
1988 Porsche 911 Coupe

2578 Selkirk Lake Dr
Shelbyville, MI 49344-9525
(616) 260-1082
jwalters@wmis.net



Brenda Hildon-Kaempf
Secretary,
1995 Porsche 993
'The Beast'

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Amber Door
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(616) 340-0971
amdoor242@aol.com



ANNUAL FALL COLOR TOUR



HOSTS: NATALIE & BILL BROWN

Natalie and Bill Brown are honored to host a lighthouse to lighthouse fall color tour in the Traverse City area on October 10. We will meet at the Brown's home at 12:45 pm. There will be a leisurely drive along the scenic shorelines of Old Mission peninsula curving past the Old Mission lighthouse.

Followed by a less leisurely drive through the bountiful Leelanau Peninsula countryside and ending at the Grand Traverse lighthouse. On the return to Traverse City we will route through the towns of Northport and Leland where we highly recommend some self exploration.

Dinner will be held at 6:00 pm at the Brown's home and while it will be a BYOB event, a tasting of a few of Blackstar Wineries products (those containing the Brown's grapes) will be available.

Dinner will be \$40 per person.* Please RSVP to Bill at gmondster@yahoo.com no later than Friday, October 2.

*(Bill Brown, 88 E McKinley RD, Traverse City, MI 49686)

When: Saturday, 10/10/2015, at 12:45 pm

Where: 88 E McKinley RD (just off M-37 N)
Traverse City, MI 49686



Thinking about hosting an event? Nov. 2nd is our planning dinner!

Join us on 11/02/2015 from 6—9 PM at Bistro Bella Vita in Grand Rapids. We'll enjoy good food while discussing our 2016 event plans. Please RSVP via E-Mail: wmrpca@wolfhofmann.com or via phone: (616) 730-1372



2015 GRATTAN GRAND PRIX RECAP

BY TED BLACKLIDGE · PHOTOS BY AMBER DOOR

For over 45 years, the Western Michigan Region has offered PCA members and guests driving education and experience at its annual Lloyd LaHuis Memorial Driver's Education Event at Grattan Raceway. This year was no exception. It was a wonderful weekend with cool temperatures and sun coming out between dramatic fall clouds. Over 50 drivers enjoyed over 120 laps on the track each day. That's some quality "seat time"!

OVER 50 DRIVERS ENJOYED OVER 120 LAPS ON THE TRACK EACH DAY.

New-to-the-track students received valuable information from Chief Instructor, Terry Schieble, and his corral of skilled instructors. We thank you, students, for trusting us to provide you with the experience to develop track driving skills. All students ran solo lap time on Sunday. Instructors also deserve major thanks.

Without you, we have no Driver's Education and no event! The folks who drove down from Traverse City really went "the distance" to help us out.

Each year, volunteers step up when they see a need and we extend our sincere thanks for their efforts.

Last, but not least, the Grattan Committee, as it has for many years, rolls along like a well-oiled machine ... say, a Porsche, for example. We receive many compliments on how well-run our event is from participants who have driven in other DE's.



Ted Blacklidge welcoming spectators and aspiring race car drivers alike.

The 2016 Grattan Committee: Craig Ackerman, Michael Betz, Colin Carpenter, Amber Door, Craig Paull, Rick Riley, Don Sazama, Terry Schieble and Eric Spross. You make my job as Chair very easy.

Also, thank you to Jerry Arens, Karlene Currie, and my wife, Gabi Blacklidge, for keeping the Breakfast Donation Station stocked with goodies in support of our DE Charity, the Midwest Traffic Safety Institute.

Another successful event is under the wheels ... but ... how do we improve? We have 470 members in WMR PCA. How do we encourage more participation? What would make you consider this event a "Do Not Miss" in 2016?

Please e-mail your suggestions to: teddly03@yahoo.com

Thank you, Ted Blacklidge, DE Event Chair



A rare Porsche 550 1500RS Spyder on track, during our Lunch Charity laps.



The German "Wolf Pack" is laying in wait at the end of pit road. Wolfgang Bubeck (back) instructing Grattan 1st-Timer Wolfgang Hofmann (front).



The paddock was alive with the sound of horsepower, tech talk, the ticking of engines cooling off from the last run, laughter and good cheer.



First sighting lap of the day. Not the original 934 Jägermeister — one has to start somewhere. Photo: Darrel Ellis.



Rumor has it, that a certain someone hit "einhundertdreißig" mph at the end of the straight — Parade laps had a more relaxed 60 mph pace.



Terry Schieble, our Chief Driving Instructor attacking Turn 3 at Grattan. It looks so easy from far away. — It. Is. Not.

REVIEW: SEPTEMBER DINNER DRIVE

BY WOLFGANG HOFMANN · PHOTOS BY DAN & REN PHILLIPS, AMBER DOOR

Our September dinner drive through the hills of Ada was a record event! In total, 57 people and 30 cars gathered at the appointed hour. After some words of encouragement “You will get separated as we drive...” by our hosts Dan & Ren Phillips, the convoy set off from the P+R next to Gravity Brewing in Grand Rapids.

Soon we left M-37 and headed East towards Lowell by taking some of the lesser-known country roads. Dan had provided everyone with great maps and instructions, but 30 min. into our drive, some of us got adventurous. Not because Dan’s route didn’t provide any interest, but rather, because nothing is more magnetic than the good looks of a preceding Porsche.

Everyone reunited quickly and at around 5:15 PM the parking lot of the Riverhouse Ada filled with a wonderful automotive display of color and the anticipation of what the dinner menu will have to offer. We were quickly greeted and seated and took delight in picking out our evening’s repast. Conversations freely flowed, even if one had to speak a little louder than usual, as the high ceiling of the large dining room offered little acoustic finesse.

The evening concluded with Dan & Ren graciously inviting us to their new home for desserts. It is unclear whether Dan paid off his neighbors with promises of real estate boosting pictures that feature Porsche automobiles, but it made for easy parking and great photo-ops indeed. All those who attended say “Thanks” to our hosts for a nice dinner drive and a great evening.



The dinner drive ended at Riverhouse Ada, but the evening just began ...



When Dan hosts a Dinner Drive, premier parking is included.



The good folks of the WMR Porsche Club arriving at Riverhouse Ada.



2015 EVENT CALENDAR

WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
OCT	10-04	Teen Street Survival	Fifth Third Ballpark, Grand Rapids	WMR PCA / BMW CCA
	10-05	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club
	10-10	Annual Fall Color Tour	Brown's Home, 88 E McKinley RD, Traverse City, MI	Natalie & Bill Brown
NOV	11-02	Annual Planning Dinner	Bistro Bella Vita, Grand Rapids	WMR PCA Club
	11-07	November Dinner Drive	Destination TBD	Randy & Linda Portoluri
DEC	12-01	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club
	12-12	December Appetizer Party	West Olive, MI	Mike & Barbara Karluk

REVIEW: RENNSPORT REUNION V

BY WOLFGANG HOFMANN · PHOTOS BY RICK RILEY

Fellow club-member Rick Riley attended this year's Rennsport Reunion V in beautiful Salinas, California at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca. Porsche Rennsport Reunion V is the preeminent gathering of Porsche race cars and drivers, collector vehicles, historic Porsche models, hosted by Porsche Cars North America, it showcases the widest variety of Porsche's most historic racing models.

Rick has promised me a first-hand account for you to read in one of the coming issues. In the meantime here are a few of Rick's photos to get you excited.



1949: Porsche 356 SL Class Winner 1951 · 24 Hours of Le Mans



1969: Porsche 917 K "Salzburg" Overall Winner 1970 · 24 Hours of Le Mans

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- Ted and Gabriele Blacklidge

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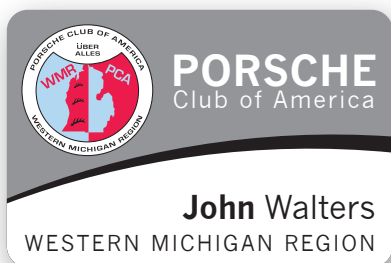


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Contributed by WMR PCA member
Tim Thatcher, ASE-Certified Master Technician
and Owner, Euro Autowerks

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Pushing the Sport Exhaust Button transforms your exhaust system from one with a smooth mechanical tone, into a rumble in the blink of an eye. Increased performance, a gutty sound and exhilaration are just a few of the benefits it offers.

Let's take a look at the operation of the Sport Exhaust by examining the wiring and basic operation of the system.



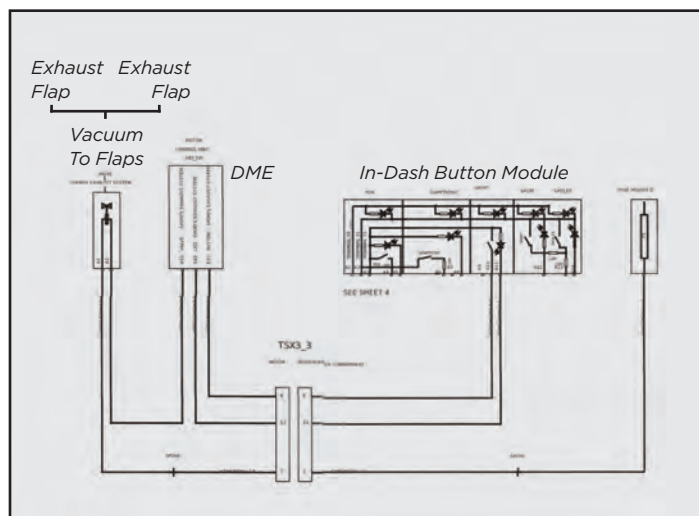
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I PUSH THIS BUTTON?

The Sport Exhaust system is comprised of mufflers with directional flaps, vacuum control valves, an in-dash switch, vacuum lines and wiring running from the switch to the control unit (DME) and control valves.

The flaps in the muffler control the direction of the exhaust flow depending upon the chosen exhaust mode – sport mode – or normal exhaust mode and are vacuum activated by means of the vacuum valve. With no vacuum applied to the valves, the mufflers will be in sport mode. Therefore on, start-up and until the engine builds vacuum, they will always be in sport mode.

The vacuum switch is controlled by the in-dash switch that sends a signal to the engine control unit (DME). Activation of the switch signals the vacuum valve to be on or off, depending upon factors such as accelerator pedal position and driving status.

Cars equipped with the Sport Chrono package also have other factors involved such as quicker throttle response, raised rev limit and changes to the suspension behavior (PASM) when in Sport mode. The illustration below is for a 2009 Boxster S and is included for your information.



We want to thank all those who turned out for our open house, it was a fun time and we enjoyed visiting with each of you. Due to the weather, many of you did not drive your Porsche, so our opportunity to get pictures was limited. Therefore, we would like to invite you to submit your favorite picture of your car for use in our 2016 calendar. We have already received a few and believe this will be one of the best calendars ever.

Finally, contrary to the rumors, I am not ready to retire yet! I am however working with our techs to get them more involved and experienced for future years.

Thanks to each of you — Tim



WMR MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Delta Porsche/Subaru, Grand Rapids, Sept. 14, 2015

Meeting was called to order by Mike Karluk at 6:59 pm.

Members present were: Mike Karluk, Ted Blacklidge, Gabi Blacklidge, Marshall Walters, John Walters, Rick Riley, Doug Tepper, Arnie Axelrod, Wolfgang Hofmann, Craig Ackerman, Amber Door and Colin Carpenter.

Treasurer's Report: Approved.

Membership Report:

Primary Members: 283
Affiliate Members: 198
Total Members: 481
New Members: 5
Transfers In: 0
Transfers Out: 1
Non renewals: 5
Renewals: 12

Minutes: August meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Über Alles Editor's Report: October issue in progress. Looking for Grattan photos and write-ups from participants if possible. Looking for new Über Alles Editor Elect.

Webmaster's Report: No report.

Social Media Report: 14 new likes on the Region's Facebook page in past month. Updated site with Street Survival Promo so others can repost on their page.

Insurance Report: No report.

Meeting was adjourned 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Amber Door

**YOU CAN ACCESS THE FULL MEETING MINUTES ON OUR WEBSITE.
[HTTP://WMR.PCA.ORG/MINUTES/MINUTES.HTM](http://WMR.PCA.ORG/MINUTES/MINUTES.HTM)**



Thinking about hosting an event? Have a brilliant event idea?

Simply stop by our Monthly Board Meeting, or contact your WMRPCA Officers. We can help you work through the details. For example: Driving Events require insurance, etc.



CHAIRPERSONS · SERVING YOUR CLUB

Über Alles Editor:

Wolfgang Hofmann
(616) 730-1372
wmrpca@wolffhofmann.com

Webmeister:

Craig Paull
wmr.pca.org
pca.wmr.webmeister@gmail.com

Social Media Chair:

Joyce Lo
(616) 920-9998
wenpeng.lo@gmail.com

Interim Advertising Co-Chair:

Ted Blacklidge
(616) 866-4143
sgrafex@chartermi.net

Interim Advertising Co-Chair:

John Walters
(616) 260-1082
jwalters@wmis.net

Chief Driving Instructor:

Terry Schieble
(269) 329-1578
no39rsr@sbcglobal.net

AutoCross Event Chair:

Duane Weed
(231) 250-9624
duane@dwvideo.com

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
jdarens62@aol.com

Registrar:

Amber Door
(616) 340-0971
amdoor242@aol.com

WMR Enthusiast:

Marshall Walters
(616) 780-1210
marshall.walters@towerswatson.com

Zone 4 Representative:

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(1) 914/6 Rear Brake Caliper, P/N 914.352.902.00, NOS / never mounted. Unavailable from Porsche AG for years. \$300. Call Bob Johnson, laser314@att.net 616-393-5990

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THE TAILPIPE

BY WOLFGANG HOFMANN, ÜBER ALLES EDITOR

Congratulate these fine folks on their WMR PCA Anniversaries and extend a warm "Willkommen" to our new members and transfers.

Glückwünsche! — Anniversaries

1 year	Ronald Windemuller, Doug & Shari Hoek, Emil Przaklasa, (2014)
5 years	Bob & Mary Younger, (2010)
10 years	Scott Kraii, (2005)
15 years	Greg & Karlene Currie (2000)

Willkommen! — New Members & Transfers

Forrest Duddles, Kalamazoo, '09 911
Jim Gillette, Ada, '04 911
John Harman, Rockford, '03 911
Michael Kessenich, Ada, '09 Cayenne GTS
John Rankin, Wyoming, '09 Boxster
Lynn Truhn, Holland, '05 Boxster
Lance Weersma, Wyoming, '09 911

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