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DEC  
2015

Happy  
Holidays!

# Über Alles

Porsche Club of America, Western Michigan Region

**First Look**  
2016 Event Calendar

**Year in Review**  
Wolfgang Looks Back

**In Review**  
Annual Fall Color Tour





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# IGNITION

DECEMBER, 2015



## IN REVIEW: ANNUAL FALL COLOR TOUR

Kelley Simonis shared some great photos of our epic drive across the Old Mission and Leelanau peninsulas. Flip to Page 7.

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# Über Alles

Porsche Club of America, Western Michigan Region

On the cover:  
*Happy Holidays*  
*from Munich.*  
*Christkindlmarkt,*  
*City Hall and*  
*Christmas Tree*

Photo by Wolfgang Hofmann

# WMR PCA · 55<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Mike Karluk**  
*President,  
Western Michigan Region*

I'm not sure if anyone reading this was present or directly involved on the hallowed day, but November 26, 2015 marks the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the West Michigan Region of PCA. I was aware of this anniversary year, though not the specific date until receiving a letter from Paul Gregor of Porsche Cars North

America. Speaking to this being a "very remarkable event indeed," Gregor observed "This bears witness to the fact that a large number of very involved Presidents, as well as yourself, were able to keep members active and entertained with many captivating events and activities over the years." I feel I still have a ways to go to match the energy and involvement of my two predecessors since I joined PCA, Dan Phillips and John Walters, but after nearly two years as President, I remain awed by the contributions of time, energy, and creativity by the many WMR members that keep the wheels of our club figuratively turning. Your efforts render the mantle of presidential responsibility light. That being said, the end of the year always brings with it questions as to whether

officers and chairpersons remain interested in continuing in their posts, if they need to cede their responsibilities, or if other members express interest in them. Wolfgang Hofmann, our award-winning Editor of Über Alles, most regrettably is unable to continue to solely edit and produce our outstanding monthly.

The need is critical for one or more with interest and skill in writing and publishing to replace or collaborate with Wolfgang. We have been without a Vice President for two years. The vice presidency is usually seen as a transitional position to the presidency. The Board and I would love to hear from anyone interested. I am happy to continue as President as long as folks don't show up at Barb's and my home with pitchforks, rakes, and torches!

I would like to thank Craig Ackerman and Duane Weed, who are stepping down from their respective posts as Safety and Autocross chairman, after many years of service. Long-time members Eric Spross and Michael Betz will assume their respective roles ably, for which I am grateful. Other officers willing to continue in their roles include Treasurer, Amber Door, and Secretary, Brenda Hildon-Kaempf. Many thanks! — *Mike*

## OFFICERS

### SERVING YOUR CLUB



**Mike Karluk**  
*President,*  
2001 Porsche 911 Turbo

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'The Beast'

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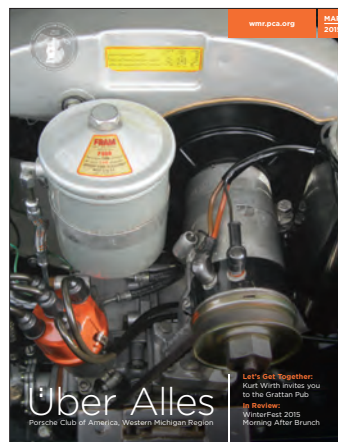
# YEAR IN REVIEW

BY WOLFGANG HOFMANN, ÜBER ALLES EDITOR

Dear friends and fellow WMR PCA club members – as you read these lines, you have before you, my 24<sup>th</sup> Über Alles issue. A two-year stewardship of our local club newsletter draws to a close and it is with great pride that I can say: I took the great work of past editors, build on it and even get our club a little well-deserved recognition from National PCA. The term newsletter really doesn't fit the Über Alles anymore. One only has to go online and visit our newsletter archive, which spans from November of 1960 to today, to realize how far we've come.

I'd like to thank all of our club members who are regular contributors. You capture the stories and photos that we enjoy each month, neatly wrapped up in the Über Alles. For 2016, I hope one of you will step forward, as I did in 2014 and carry the torch of being our Chief Editor. If you'd like to volunteer please contact me: [wmrpca@wolffhofmann.com](mailto:wmrpca@wolffhofmann.com) or call: (616) 730-1372.

In the meantime, I hope you enjoy this quick recap of 2015 Über Alles covers. — Wolfgang



# AROUND THE ZONE

BY MICHAEL SORIANO, ZONE 4 REPRESENTATIVE



**Michael Soriano**  
Zone 4 Representative,  
Porsche Club of America

On a beautiful and unseasonably warm Sunday, I joined nearly 60 members from the Motor-Stadt region on their Fall Color Tour that concluded at the Sandhill Crane Vineyards in Jackson, MI. The event, which was hosted by Okemos Auto Collection included lunch, a tour of the winery, and a tasting. In addition, one lucky

participant won an afternoon at the Porsche Experience Center located at the new headquarters for Porsche Cars North America in Atlanta. A few weeks later, I traveled to Cleveland to attend Northern Ohio Region's Wine Train Excursion aboard the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railway, an event so popular it sold out. We were treated to a selection of chef inspired appetizers as we tasted a variety of wines. During the evening, I presented several items to the region as we celebrated their 55th Anniversary. It was a pleasure to be able to help the region commemorate such an important milestone.

## I WANT TO WISH EVERYONE A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.

We've had a lot of progress and accomplishments in Zone 4 over the past 2 years, and I want to thank those Region Officers and members that have worked together with me to help make Zone 4 a success. I was honored to be invited to and welcomed at so many wonderful events throughout the zone. It has been an important goal of mine to continue to have our Zone work as 1 cohesive unit. Since each region is unique, a real effort has been and will continue to be made to promote each region's signature events throughout the zone thus providing a greater variety of activities to every Zone 4 member helping to enhance their PCA experience.

During this past year, we have continued to improve the Zone 4 Website. We also organized the first National Concours Judges School ever to be held in Zone 4, and as a result have nationally trained judges in nearly every region in the zone.

We have expanded the Club Racing program and are looking to add even more races in the coming years. We have also greatly increased the number of Street Survival programs; in fact, Zone 4 hosts the most schools in all of PCA, a fact I am very proud of since this is such a beneficial program.

Just because we've put our cars away for the winter, it does not mean that we can't experience the same camaraderie and friendship enjoyed during the driving season. Many regions will be hosting Holiday Parties this month, and what a great way to kick off the holidays by celebrating with your PCA friends.

Looking ahead to 2016, plans are being made for the PCA preview at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. Information will be sent out and/or posted as soon as details become available. Please remember to check your in boxes, region's newsletter and website, as well as the Zone 4 website <http://zone4.pca.org> for the most up to date information about events available to you.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at [MSoriano.ZoneRep@gmail.com](mailto:MSoriano.ZoneRep@gmail.com)

*Thanks, Michael*



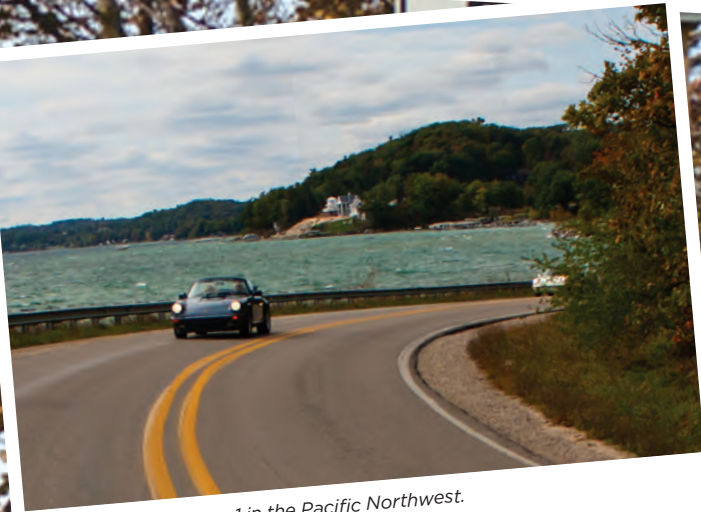


# FALL COLOR TOUR — IN REVIEW —

PHOTOS BY KELLEY SIMONIS



Here are a few wonderful impressions from our annual Fall Color Tour, taken and shared by Kelley Simonis. — Thank You, Kelley!



Nope, it's not Highway 1 in the Pacific Northwest. It's right in our very own backyard.



Back in October, Natalie and Bill Brown hosted a lighthouse to lighthouse fall color tour in the Traverse City area. This is a belated Thank You!



We encountered many scenic vistas along the way.



A splash of color in the front. A splash of color in the back. And our flat-six soundtrack echoed through the Michigan autumn woods.



# 2016 EVENT CALENDAR

## WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
<b>JAN</b>	01-04	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club
	01-14	January Dinner Drive	The River House Ada, Ada, MI	Rick Riley
	01-30 through 01-31	Rolex 24 at DAYTONA	1801 W. International Speedway Boulevard, Daytona Beach, FL 32114	Non-PCA Event
<b>FEB</b>	02-01	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club
	02-17	February Dinner Drive	The Grattan Pub, Grattan, MI	Kurt Wirth, Ted & Gabi Blacklidge
	02-27	WinterFest 2016	Bar Divani, 15 Ionia Ave SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503	WMR PCA Club, Brenda Hildon-Kaempf
<b>MAR</b>	03-07	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club
	03-13	March Dinner Drive	Cygnus 27, Grand Rapids, MI	Wolfgang & Miluzka Bubeck
	03-16 through 03-19	64th Annual 12 Hours of Sebring	Sebring International Raceway 113 Midway Dr, Sebring, FL 33870	Non-PCA Event
<b>APR</b>	04-04	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club
	04-16	Annual Cookoff	The Schieble Residence, Portage, MI	Terry & Dorilee Schieble
<b>MAY</b>	05-02	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club
	05-14	May Dinner Drive	Destination TBD	John & Marshall Walters
	05-21	Sporting Clays Event	Blendon Pines Gun Club, Zeeland, MI	Jerry Arens & Amber Door
<b>JUN</b>	06-06	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club
	06-11	Euro Autowerks Open House	Rockford, MI	Tim Thatcher and Euro Autowerks
	06-19 through 06-26	Porsche Parade 2015 PCA National Event	Jay Peak, VT	Porsche Club of America, National Event
	06-25	Parade Orphans Lunch Drive	Destination TBD	Len & Bonnie Gawron
<b>JUL</b>	07-11	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club
	07-23	Pool Party	Destination TBD	TBD
<b>AUG</b>	08-01	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA Club





PORSCHE

## ADDITIONAL EVENTS WILL BE ADDED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
<b>AUG</b>	08-06	Red Barns Spectacular	Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners, MI	Jerry Arens & Amber Door
	08-11	German Auto Service Open House	1014 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504	Non-PCA Event Ben Zeeuw
	08-21	IROC I — Autocross	Destination TBD	TBD
	08-26 through 08-27	28th Street Metro Cruise	28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI	Non-PCA Event
	08-28	IROC II — Autocross	Destination TBD	TBD
<b>SEP</b>	09-10 through 09-11	Grand Prix of Grattan DE	Grattan Raceway, Grattan, MI	Ted Blacklidge
	09-12	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMPCA Club
	09-24	September Dinner Drive	Destination TBD	TBD
<b>OCT</b>	10-02	Teen Street Survival	Fifth Third Ballpark, Grand Rapids	WMPCA / BMW CCA
	10-03	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMPCA Club
	TBD	Annual Fall Color Tour	Destination TBD	TBD
<b>NOV</b>	11-07	Annual Planning Dinner	Destination TBD	WMPCA Club
	TBD	November Dinner Drive	Destination TBD	TBD
<b>DEC</b>	12-05-16	Monthly Board Meeting	Delta Imports, Grand Rapids, MI	WMPCA Club
	12-10-16	December Appetizer Party	West Olive, MI	Mike & Barbara Karluk

For more PCA National and Inter-Regional events, visit: <https://www.pca.org/events>  
For the full PCA Club Racing Schedule, visit: <https://www.pca.org/club-racing>



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

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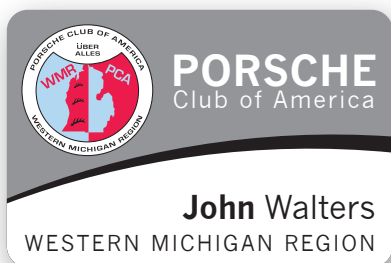


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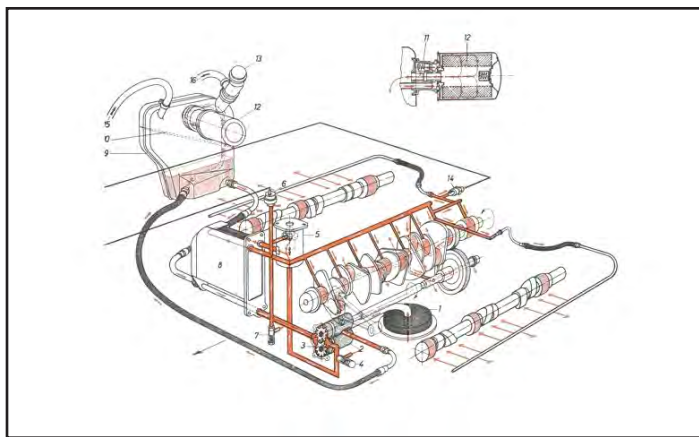


Contributed by WMR PCA member  
Tim Thatcher, ASE-Certified Master Technician  
and Owner, Euro Autowerks

## OIL SUMP SYSTEMS - DRY VS. WET

Oil. It is the lifeblood of your engine, but the various systems are often misunderstood. This article will explain the basics of both the wet and dry sump systems.

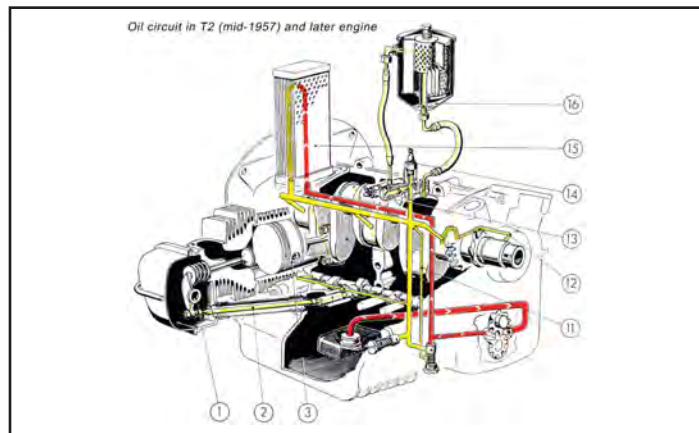
**Wet Sump Systems (WSS)** - This is the most common system and is used in 99% of all production cars. WSS have one oil pump that draws oil from the bottom of the oil pan which is located at the bottom of your engine. From the pump, the oil proceeds to various engine components such as filters, bearings and lifters. The oil is returned to the pan by way of gravity, running through passages in the cylinder head and down the sides of the engine block. In the right application and when proper maintenance is performed on a regular basis, the WSS can provide years of reliable service.



Common downfalls of the WSS are: A) Oil pans hang down low to the ground decreasing clearance; B) The amount of oil they hold is limited; C) The biggest downfall occurs during racing or hard cornering as oil can creep up the edge of the oil pan, lowering the level in the pan until the pump is starved, this can result in premature bearing damage.

**Dry Sump Systems (DSS)** - The DSS is the ultimate oiling system for internal combustion engines and eliminates the downfalls of the WSS. In a DSS, there is a minimum

of two pumps, one which draws oil from the bottom of the engine and returns it to an oil holding tank after first passing through filters and coolers. The second pump is the pressure pump. It draws oil from the bottom of the reservoir and pumps it throughout the engine as required. Oil is then returned to the engine oil pan by gravity, same as with a WSS.



Some of the DSS advantages are: A) Systems typically have a large reservoir that holds more oil; B) The reservoir is designed to prevent oil from creeping up the sides and away from the pump's pick-up point; C) Increased ground clearance due to a shallower engine oil pan; D) The reservoir may be located in any area of the vehicle to better distribute weight; E) The DSS increases power by creating extra crankcase vacuum, which improves ring seal and keeping the rotating assembly free of windage, allowing it to spin freely

DSS disadvantages include increased cost, complexity and weight. There can be many variations to each system, such as deeper sumps, baffles and windage trays in the oil pan. DSS may have extra pumps in the engine, as well as baffles to remove the air from the oil when it returns to the tank. Whether you use a WSS or a DSS, your vehicle's performance and reliability will come down to how well you maintain the complete system.

We want to thank those of you who have sent us your favorite picture of your car for our 2016 calendar. We would like to encourage those of you who have not done so yet, to please submit your picture by January 1st. You may email your picture to us at: [admin@euroautowerks.com](mailto:admin@euroautowerks.com). With your help, our 2016 calendar will be the best yet!

In closing, everyone here at Euro Autowerks would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas. We encourage you to drive safely and hope you have the happiest of holidays. — *Tim, Cody, Danielle, Chris, Hunter & Clyde*



# WMR MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 2, 2015

## **Bistro Bella Vita Restaurant, Grand Rapids, November**

**2, 2015** — Meeting was called to order by Mike Karluk at 6:05 pm. Members present were: Mike Karluk, Amber Door, Jerry Arens, Brenda Hildon-Kaempf, John and Marshall Walters, Wolfgang Hofmann, Dan and Ren Phillips, Ted and Gabi Blacklidge, Rick Riley, Jim Gillette, Wolfgang Bubeck, Craig Paull, Don Sazama

**Minutes:** October minutes approved as printed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Approved.

### **Membership Report:**

Primary Members: 288  
Affiliate Members: 195  
Total Members: 483  
New Members: 3  
Transfers In: 1  
Transfers Out: 1 (to Carolinas region)

### **Membership Report, Cont'd:**

Non renewals: 2

Renewals: 10

**Über Alles Editor's Report:** Fastest editorial requested and received - 30 minutes by Don Sazama. Uber should be arriving in mailboxes soon. Wolfgang is looking for a replacement or someone to join him in his efforts. Interested persons, please contact Wolfgang.

**Webmaster's Report:** Nothing new to report.

**Social Media Report:** RSVP notice for Saturday event in Allendale is posted on Facebook. 5 new likes, with a total of 238. Nov. 11 region focus group meeting - Joyce has requested to be included.

**Insurance Report:** No insurance is needed for any upcoming events.

Meeting was adjourned 8:35 pm

*Respectfully submitted by Brenda Hildon-Kaempf*

**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**

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E-Mail to come

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#### Full page:

Color: \$105/month  
Black & White: \$70/month

#### 1/2 page:

Color: \$70/month  
Black & White: \$45/month

#### 1/4 page:

Color: \$45/month  
Black & White: \$30/month

#### 1/8 page:

Color: \$30/month  
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BY W. HOFMANN, ÜBER ALLES EDITOR

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### Glückwünsche! — Anniversaries

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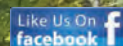
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