



PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA
Über Alles
 Western Michigan Region

- Upcoming Events:**
 2019 Calendar of Events
 January Dinner Drive
- Tech Spalte:**
 All In A Day's Work
- In Review:**
 November Dinner Drive
- In Memory:**
 Herr Kurt Wirth



Among the things in your rearview mirror: shoulda, coulda, woulda.

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IGNITION

DECEMBER, 2018



Winterfest 2019



More information to come in the
January 2019 Über Alles

In this Issue...

President's Letter	4
Upcoming Event	5
In Review	5
Around the Zone	6
A Tribute to Kurt Wirth	7
2018 Events Calendar	8 - 9
Tech Spalte	12 - 13
Classifieds	14
Tailpipe	15

Show your Support by Visiting Our Advertisers!

Porsche Grand Rapids.....	Inside Front Cover
Deming's Auto Collision	10
Lakeside Automotive	10
Great Lakes Chemical.....	10
Hubbs Insurance, Inc.	11
Foreign Car Services.....	11
German Auto	11
Stickman Bäeckerei.....	11
CareFree Coaches.....	15
Hammer & Dolly	15
Mosaic Wealth	15
Euro Autowerks.....	Back Cover

■ PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA Über Alles Western Michigan Region

On the cover:
Happy Holidays from WMR PCA!
A myriad of 2018 exciting event photos
taken by various WMR PCA Club Members

REFLECTIONS

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Mike Karluk
President,
Western Michigan Region

The West Michigan Region of PCA has lost a great friend with the death of Kurt Wirth on Thursday, November 29, who succumbed to cancer. Kurt joined the WMR in 1979 and served as President, organized the Grattan track weekend for fourteen years, kept our region's archives as Historian for longer than anybody could say, and was our Insurance coordinator. He was a charming and debonair character who was interested in getting to know everyone and always wanted to know how you were doing. I had no idea Kurt was ill until I receive an email from him on October 29 simply requesting that I relieve him of his duties because of his increasing health problems. I was informed of the gravity of his health problems the week before Thanksgiving and created a Certificate of Appreciation for all his contributions to the club. Kurt passed before we could present it to him, but it was received with heartfelt gratitude along with a card of condolence signed by the forty-six attendees of the Holiday Appetizer Party by the younger of his two sons, Alex, during our December Board. Alex told us that Porsche cars were chronologically the first of Kurt's three great loves of his life, the second being his family, and the third his career with S.C. Johnson corporation.

I was working on a personal letter to Kurt thanking him for all his contributions to the club when I learned of his passing. While considering this task, I thought about a question that occasionally comes up during reflective moments: What was the happiest time in your life? My reflexive response, that I'll stick to with some qualifiers, was the ten-year period between graduating from college and entering medical school when I was actively involved with the University of Chicago Track Club as a competitor, assistant coach, official, and ultimately as Coach following the death of its founder and my mentor, Ted Haydon. I had interesting hospital and counseling jobs during the work day that ultimately led me into medical school and my career as a psychiatrist while training, competing, and officiating on nearly a daily basis year-round after work and on weekends as a member of a large and vibrant community of individuals bonded by their love of track and field. My experience with the WMR of PCA parallels my experience with the Track Club. The camaraderie Barb and I have experienced with a wonderfully diverse group of people who share a common passion for Porsches in our nine years of membership in the WMR has been similar and I can't help but think Kurt must have had the same experience, albeit for thirty-nine years. Thanks for being one of the many standout individuals who has enriched my life for the past nine years, Kurt, and thanks to his wife, Shirley, for sharing him with us.

January will bring a changing of the guard on the Board. Jim Chiavaras will be stepping up as newly elected President, Frank Connor is replacing Jim as Vice President, and Marshall Walters is taking over the job of Secretary so ably executed for years by Brenda Hildon-Kaempff. Chuck Olenyk is assuming the Historian post and Tyan Roelands is taking over coordinating Insurance for group driving events. It's been an honor and privilege to serve as President for the past five years. Thank you all and have a wonderful and safe holiday season.

Signing off...

-Mike

ACCESS THE MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES ON OUR WEBSITE.
[HTTP://WMI.PCA.ORG/ABOUT-US/MINUTES/MINUTES-ARCHIVE/](http://wmi.pca.org/about-us/minutes/minutes-archive/)



We're looking for event hosts for 2019

Simply stop by our Monthly Board Meeting, or contact our WMR PCA Social Events Coordinator, Lynne Olenyk, with your event ideas. Lynne will help you work through the details and make your event a success. E-Mail: lynniemarie@charter.net · Phone: (616) 710-0122



JANUARY DINNER DRIVE

HOST: RICK RILEY

Are you ready? It's time to kick off the 2019 season of the Western Michigan Porsche Club! Our first official event will involve eating, drinking and socializing (imagine that)! We will gather at Charley's Crab in downtown Grand Rapids (Free Parking). Please mark your calendars and plan to join your Porsche friends for a fun evening of camaraderie.



WHEN: Wednesday, January 16, 2019
6:00pm Cocktails, 7:00pm Dinner



WHERE: Charley's Crab
63 Market Avenue, S.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

RSVP By: January 11, 2018
Rick.Riley@Grandxray.com or
Call 616-459-0145 and speak with
Kelli; mention you would like to
RSVP for the Charlie's Crab Dinner Drive

IN REVIEW: NOVEMBER DINNER DRIVE

BY: RANDY PORTOLURI

On November 17 we once again met at Peppino's Sports Grill in Allendale. 13 members attended. The weather was not as cooperative as in past Novembers and many of us have put our babies to bed for the winter except for one couple. Once again the food was terrific and the fellowship was superb as always. Our many thanks to the staff of Peppino's and all that showed up.



AROUND THE ZONE

BY LORI SCHUTZ



Hi Zone 4,

This is my 12th edition of Around the Zone, to close out 2018. What an incredible year we've had.

I started the month of November at a non-PCA event, however with PCA members. Those of you who know my Boxster S are aware that I am a strong supporter of the Komen Foundation, and raise money to find a cure for cancer. I completed the 3-Day 60 Mile Walk in Dallas, Texas, and raised over \$2,500 this year. While great strides have been made, we still are not curing everyone of cancer. Late in the month, Western Michigan Region said a final farewell to a very long-standing member, Kurt Wirth. While I realize that each region has special members who pass, I was proud to call Kurt a friend since I joined PCA in 1983. He was an avid PCA enthusiast and held almost every region board position and committee job available since he joined in 1979. Fond memories captured in photos through the year can be found on the Western Michigan website, here is my favorite.



Kurt Wirth, Left, with Lori Schutz and Doug Tepper, then president of Western Michigan Region, 1993 Parade

The 2nd weekend in November I got out of the cold and served as a Scrutineer at the final PCA Club Race event of the season at Buttonwillow Raceway, north of Los Angeles. Then the following weekend, I enjoyed the festivities of the start of many holiday / end of year parties with Central Indiana Region. A silent auction raised funds for their charity, and I was honored to share my father's stories of being the Porsche CEO.

The final Friday of November I was happy to attend the Banquet for Maumee Valley Region in Toledo. Everyone received a parting gift of a beautiful glass stein with etched logo. Many year end recognition awards were presented by Barney Stewart, their president. The awards were inspired by the Parade trophies, with the assistance from Michael Soriano, our National Awards Chair who was also there with his wife Lisa, who will be their president next year. Barney recognized their charity with a donation to help feed hungry children in the school system by Mobile Wheels of Toledo, here with their representative. Charity and giving back is a huge part of all of our Zone 4 regions year round, of which I am so proud.



Maumee Valley Region President Barney Stewart presents a check to Mobile Meals of Toledo at their annual banquet.

The weekend rounded out with the Appetizer party on the western coast of Michigan, with the Western Michigan Region Gang. A wonderful evening with friends new and from the past.

Cheers - Lori





Kurt Wirth 1930 - 2018

A long-time member of Western Michigan Region left us Thursday, November 29. Kurt was born and raised in Germany and had some interesting tales of life there. Eventually he migrated to the US and became a citizen. He was employed much of his life by S. C. Johnson, working for the company both in Europe and here. He acquired his beloved 1965 356 SC in Europe and brought it to America with him. In 1979, Kurt joined Porsche Club and WMR. During his time with the club he served in a variety of posts, including President, the Grattan driving event chair, and most recently historian and insurance coordinator. Kurt is survived by his wife Shirley, a sister (Monica Kreitz, who lives in Germany), two adopted sons (Geoffrey Towner Wirth and Alexander Reed Wirth-Cauchon) and his daughter Stephanie Alexandra Wirth along with their family members. Kurt had four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was a regular at a variety of events, and always brought with him a touch of European flair. You can find his complete obituary in [The Grand Rapids Press](#). Rob Clark has penned a tribute, which you can obtain from the [WMR PCA Website](#). Also on the WMR PCA Website is a picture gallery tribute to [Kurt Wirth](#) that the Webmeister hopes to expand over time. He will be sorely missed. Farewell, good friend.



2019 EVENT CALENDAR

WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
JAN	01-07	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	01-16	January Dinner Event	Charley's Crab, Grand Rapids, MI	Rick Riley
	01-26 to 01-27	Rolex 24 at Daytona	Daytona International Raceway, Daytona Beach, FL	Non-WMR PCA Event
FEB	01-31 to 02-03	Michigan International Auto Show	DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, MI	Non-WMR PCA Event
	02-04	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	02-16	Winterfest 2019	Thousand Oaks, Grand Rapids, MI	WMR PCA
	02-17	Morning After Brunch	TBD	Jerry Arens & Amber Door
MAR	03-04	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	03-08	WERKS Reunion - Amelia Island	Omni Amelia Island Plantation, Fernandina Beach, FL	PCA
	03-10	Daylight Savings Brunch	Cygnus27, Amway Grand Plaza, Grand Rapids, MI	Wolfgang & Miluzka Bubeck
	03-27	March Dinner Event	Grattan Irish Pub, Grattan MI	Rick Riley
APR	04-01	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	04-03 to 04-06	Treffen Santa Barbara Spring 2019	Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Resort	PCA
	04-13	Annual Cookoff	Ada, MI	Frank & Raeni Conner, Glenn & Lannie Eisenbrandt
MAY	05-06	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	05-11	May Dinner drive	TBD	Frank & Raeni Conner, Glenn & Lannie Eisenbrandt
	05-18	Sporting Clays	Blendon Pines Gun Club Zeeland, MI	Jerry Arens & Amber Door
JUN	06-01 to 06-02	Belle Isle Grand Prix Porsche Car Corral	Belle Isle Detroit, MI	PCA
	06-03	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	06-08	Tech Session	Euro Autowerks Rockford, MI	Euro Autowerks
	TBD	Spring Up	Northern Michigan	Robert Steffens
JUL	07-01	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	07-08	Deutsch Marques: A German Auto Event	Gilmore Car Museum Hickory Corner, MI	Non-WMR PCA Event
	07-03	TBD	TBD	Barb Doss
	07-17	Gilmore Cruise In	Gilmore Car Museum Hickory Corners, MI	Rick Riley
	07-21 to 07-27	2019 Porsche Parade	Boca Raton Resort & Club Boca Raton, FL	PCA



PORSCHE

ADDITIONAL EVENTS WILL BE ADDED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
AUG	08-03	Red Barn Spectacular	Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners, MI	Jerry Arens & Amber Door
	08-05	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA Club
	08-16	WERKS Reunion - Monterey	Corral de Tierra Country Club Salinas, CA	PCA
	08-17	August Dinner Drive	TBD	Tyan & Lisa Roelands
	08-23 to 08-24	28 th Street Metro Cruise Kickoff	Porsche Grand Rapids	Porsche Grand Rapids
SEP	09-04 to 09-07	Treffen Vermont Fall 2019	Woodstock Inn & Resort Woodstock, VT	PCA
	09-10	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	09-14 to 09-15	Grand Prix of Grattan High Performance Driver's Education	Grattan Raceway, Grattan, MI	Ted Blacklidge
	09-21	Porsches and BBQ	Allegan, MI	CB & Kelly Bursk
	09-28	September Dinner Drive	TBD	Randy & Lin Portoluri
OCT	10-07	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	TBD	Fall Color Tour	TBD	TBD
NOV	11-04	2020 Planning & Board Meeting	TBD	WMR PCA
	11-17	November Dinner Drive	TBD	Randy & Lin Portoluri
DEC	12-02	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche Grand Rapids	WMR PCA
	12-07	Annual Appetizer Party	West Olive, MI	Mike Karluk & Barb Doss





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- Ted and Gabriele Blackledge

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While most of our customers are pretty good at having their cars serviced in a timely manner, every now and then a vehicle comes in which has not been properly serviced. The following pictures show examples of what can happen when regular service is overlooked.

Oil is the lifeblood of your engine, not changing it in a timely manner can cause major damage and wear. Proper service will avoid filter failure such as these.



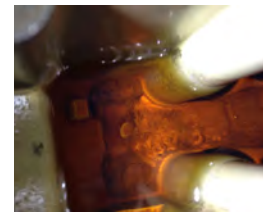
Life-time coolants and lubricants are only good for the salesman, not your car. Contaminates and heat can combine to turn your "life-time" material into poison for your car. Check out these cups of "life-time" coolants. Which would you want in your car?



High engine temperatures can wear on an engine's components. Here is why we recommend checking and cleaning your radiator on a regular basis to keep the air flowing and prevent corrosion of the corners.



Fuel systems can become plugged and inoperative when fuels set too long in a vehicle. Over time, gasoline that sits in the tank will turn into varnish. When moisture gets into the gas, it causes rust inside the tank which will eventually end up in your carburetors.



Most people never give spark plugs a second thought, but what happens when they fail can be catastrophic. Failure of a spark plug resulted in this intake being blown up when the fuel mixture was allowed to build up and there was a mis-fire under boost.



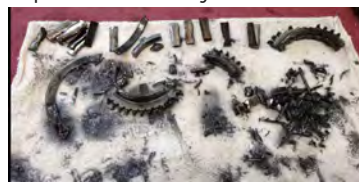
Here's a great illustration of what you don't want to see noted on the Pre-purchase Inspection report you ordered for that vintage Porsche you just have to have.



Here's a great example of why we recommend pinning the coolant pipes on your 996 and 997 Turbos. Imagine yourself having a great day at the track or hitting the road when your car overheats due to a sudden loss of coolant caused by coolant pipes coming apart. These pipes came un-glued and came apart. These pipes have been "pinned" and will remain connected.



Here's a great picture of what you don't want me to find inside of your car's transmission. Transmission gear failure equals a bad day.



(continued on page 13)

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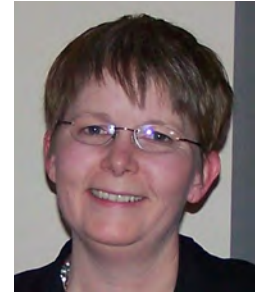
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(Tech Spalte continued from page 12)

How many guys does it take to solder one wire???
Apparently two.



Here's the part of your wire harness that you don't want to see. Power leads to the air pump.



What I did not find under my Christmas tree?



- Tim



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my 2010 997.2. Paid \$2000 for the set, asking \$1500 / OBO. Please call Ray at (616)929-0141

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

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The ÜBER ALLES magazine is published monthly by the Western Michigan Region of the Porsche Club of America.

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
Black & White: \$20/month

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

Deadline for ad delivery and payment is the 15th of each month.

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

Glückwünsche! — Anniversaries

1 year (2017) Nancy Fazio, Tim & Kristina Wykeham

5 years (2013) Andrew Schipper

35 years (1983) James & Nancy Knister

Willkommen! — New Members & Transfers

No new members in December

Transfer In: Larry Goodenow & Russell Noll,
Maple City, '89 911 / '12 911



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