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Western Michigan Region

Let's Get Together:



Sim Racing

A Look Back Into Our Porsche Past

Don't Sound The Alarm





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# IGNITION

APRIL 2021

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## Upcoming EVENTS

### TECH SESSION

June 05, 2021

Host: Euro Autowerks

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On the cover:  
Thank you to Kalamazoo photographer Bill Dolak for his photo taken at the Al Sabo Land Preserve, the inspiration for our April cover and the subject of "A Look Back" on page 5 & 9.

**PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA**  
**Über Alles**  
Western Michigan Region

# GREETINGS EVERYONE

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Jim Chiavaras**  
President, Western Michigan Region

Although we have had some fun since the pandemic started, the future looks much brighter given the fact that we can likely have face to face events in the coming months. We did not have any events in March other than our monthly board meeting on Monday March 1, and just prior to our meeting we had a guest speaker from Fathers Against Distracted Driving give an informative presentation. Their mission is to change the driving habits of Americans to significantly reduce vehicular related fatalities, injuries, and economic losses.

Thus far there are no events planned for April other than the monthly board meeting, therefore, I am looking forward to May even more. We have a drive and possible dinner on May 15th hosted by Glenn and Lannie Eisenbrandt, and sporting clays on May 22nd hosted by Amber Door and Jerry Arens which thankfully is an outdoor event that will likely proceed without problems.

Phase 2 parade registration opens on April 7 and gives us yet another reason to think that this driving season holds much more promise than last year.

I received an email from John O'Connell today and he and Arie Luyendyk are putting on a track day program at Gingerman on May 8/9 coaching and teaching advanced skills when not on the track. This would be a non PCA event. Sounds like an interesting day if anyone is interested.

More information at [performancetrackday.com](http://performancetrackday.com)

All the best,

*Jim*

## WHAT IS eDE?

## PCA SIMRACING

PCA Sim Racing has a driver training program called "e Driver Education". eDE is modeled after the popular PCA HPDE activity where well-versed instructors train drivers in the classroom and on track. Our eDE program emulates the same concept in sim racing.

Our Classroom: We are serious about Sim Racing, and treat driver responsibility with the same importance as HDPE. We hold eDE Group Training every Monday. Our Classroom includes help to set up your sim gear, getting your communications in order, getting on track, and working with instructors to better your understanding of PCA Sim Racing.

Just like HPDE, our instructors jump in your car and show you a proper driving line. We can also put multiple drivers in an instructor's car, for a group learning experience during a track walk that you can't get in HDPE.

It does not stop there. While Group Sessions help you get a feel of side-by-side, heads-up driving, our one-on-one Instruction Sessions dig deep into getting the most out of your car's performance. Finding the racing line, learning to brake efficiently, using weight transfer and momentum; these skills cross both platforms. What is different is the way in which you get feedback from the sim. It can be like learning to drive again. eDE can smooth the transition. We have great instructors who teach how to improve car control, to drivers of any level.

eDE is free for PCA Sim Racing members in good standing. Our instructors volunteer their time to help you improve and enjoy your experience <https://pcasimracing.com>

## 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 2021

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](mailto:lynniemarie@charter.net) · Phone: (616) 710-0122





# A LOOK BACK

BY: DARLYNE SABO UNDERHILL - INTRODUCTION BY CHUCK OLENYK



Continuing with our look at early club members, next are Albert and Arlyne Sabo from Kalamazoo. Al's daughter Darlyne has written a book about his life entitled "No Ordinary Man" in which she describes him as a "builder, inventor, and innovator, Al Sabo was a man with little formal education, but with large optimism, multiple

talents, strong ethics, and a huge love for his family and community. Starting as a ditch digger for the (Kalamazoo) city water department, he rose to become the Director of that same department. The 741 acre Al Sabo Land Preserve southwest of the city honors his work today." The following chapter is from her book called "The Cabriolet".

"Al's new 1956 Porsche would be the Cabriolet. "Cabriolet" means convertible in French. Oh yes, and when you pronounce Porsche, it sounds just like Portia, the girl's name. There were only 542 Cabriolet Porsches built that year, and Al was now lucky enough to have one of them. He took possession of his new Porsche in Kalamazoo, at a cost of \$4,000. It was also the Super 90 model and that year the Porsche had a 70 HP engine so it could really step out! The speedometer actually went up to 130 MPH! When the driver accelerates in that car, it really seems to hug the road. Man and machine become one - a damned fine ride!

This Porsche was a sparkling, burgundy red, with a tan convertible top, and four years later, you could still eat off the engine. It was that clean! Al really enjoyed dressing (polishing) the leather seats and he even applied a cleaner to the car's unique, special wooden steering wheel. He would actually remove the bucket seats to make certain every inch of the car was polished to his standard of perfection. When Al would enter his Porsche in several Concours to compete for "Best Condition" he usually won First Place even against the newer models. He was the "man to beat" and had several trophies to prove it. Al didn't finish First Place all the time but he was always among the top three.

In, 1956, Al and Arlyne would join the Porsche Club of America, which had just been founded the year before. Through the Porsche Club, they would go on several Treffens to various parts of the world. "Treffen" in the German language means a "Meeting". One of the Sabo's

most memorable trips was on a Treffen to Mexico City. The Club members met at El Paso, Texas, where the Porsche factory had sent a truck with spare parts and a German mechanic to accompany them. Should they have any trouble, the mechanic would know how to fix everything. All of the members, some seventeen cars in total, caravanned over curvy, mountainous roads — this, much to the delight of Porsche drivers! When they reached the outskirts of Mexico City they met and were greeted by the Countess, who was, herself, a Porsche Club member and the sponsor of this Treffen. She proceeded to lead them all the way to her estate, which was inside a walled compound. There were even guards, posted at the gate, to make sure all the Porsche's were secure. Needless to say, members were treated royally during the Treffen and enjoyed the sights of and around Mexico City.

There were more Treffens, too, some to the East Coast, where the history of the United States of America began. A visit to Constitutional Hall, and to actually touch the Liberty Bell, were some of the highlights. There were also excursions to the South, and visiting cities such as Savannah and Atlanta, Georgia. Each Treffen had a host member of the Club, who would explain the history of the sites they visited, and reveal little-known facts about the area, such as the Revolutionary War and its ramifications in the South. So, these Treffens were not only social events, but they were educational, as well.

In 1962, the Porsche Company in Germany again collaborated with the Porsche Club of America and offered a special Treffen to Germany. This trip was intended for members who wanted to order a new car. They could order their own special Porsche exactly to their specifications. That way they could even order their choice of color, with one exception. They could not order the color chrome orange as that was reserved for the Porsche family only. One of the extra events also available to the participants in this Treffen was a three-day driving school, taught on the Stuttgart Solitude Race Track, where the factory competitive racing was done. This special class for Treffen

students was taught by Dan Gurney, a member of the Porsche racing team at the time. Al was thrilled and immersed himself in the class.



Albert Sabo's ticket from 1962

Continued on page 9



# DON'T SOUND THE ALARM



BY: TIM THATCHER

I thought I would take a moment to share with everyone that I am looking at options for the next few years and the continuing of Euro Autowerks being the Porsche Club members and owners "Go To" shop for the next several decades.

As the years have passed by it has become a reality that I am growing older. Life expectancy aside, working on vehicles takes a toll and becomes more difficult with time.

I want you to know that I have placed an advertisement in our April Panorama magazine for a like-minded technician/businessman who would like to carry on the legacy of Euro Autowerks in my place.

Even though I am looking for a new owner, I want to assure you that I am still here and hope to be here in some capacity, working with and mentoring a new owner.



Now here's a few interesting pictures for your enjoyment about what your tech does when he is laid up and cannot go to his garage.



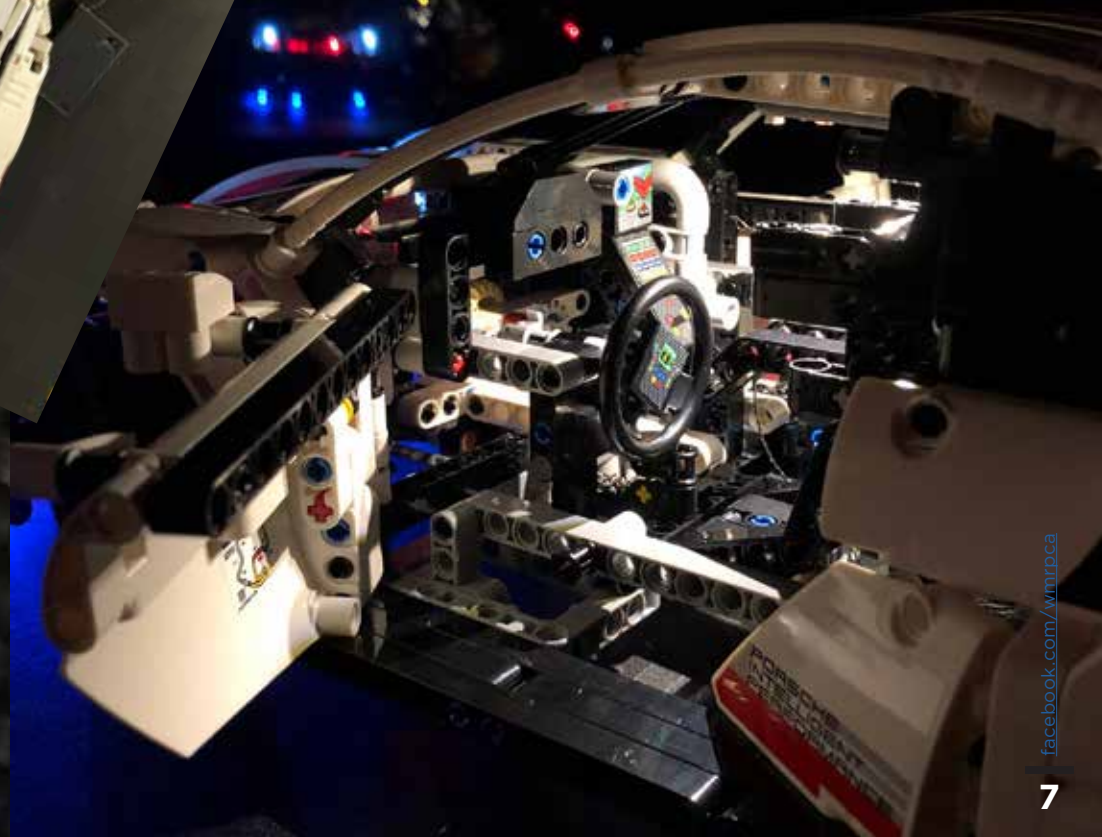
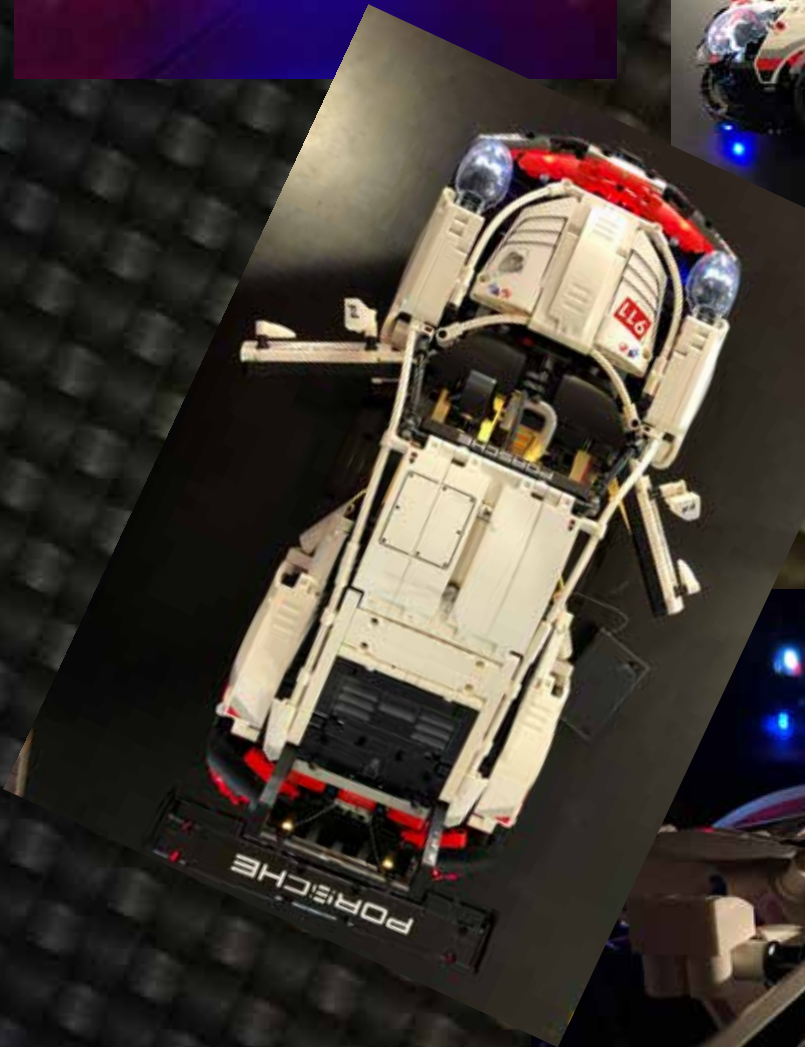
*When your mode of transportation needs emergency repair, take it to Buckskins and let Joe fix it.*



# Autowerks

# Snap SHOTS

Tim's new toys



# 2021 EVENT CALENDAR

## WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
<b>APR</b>	04-05	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom)	WMR PCA
	<del>04-24</del>	Meat Cook-off	Will be <b>RESCHEDULED</b>	F & R Conner
<b>MAY</b>	05-03	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom)	WMR PCA
	05-15	Dinner? Drive ✓	TBD	G & L Eisenbrandt
	05-22	Sporting Clays OUTDOORS	Blendon Pines Gun Club Zeeland, MI	J. Arens & A. Door
	TBD	Street Survival	TBD	C. Bursk & J. Baillargeon
<b>JUN</b>	06-05	Tech Session	Euro Autoweks Rockford, MI	Euro Autowerks
	06-05 to 06-06	Belle Isle IMSA	Detroit	Non PCA event
	06-07	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom)	WMR PCA
	06-12 to 06-13	Belle Isle NTT IndyCar	Detroit	Non PCA event
<b>JUL</b>	07-06	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom) this is a Tuesday	WMR PCA
	07-10	Deutsche Marques	Gilmore Car Museum	Non PCA event
	07-07 to 07-17	Porsche Parade	French Lick, IN	PCA
	07-21	Gilmore Drive-In	Gilmore Car Museum	R Riley
	07-24	Pool Party	Ackerman's Residence	Ackerman's & Blacklidge's
<b>AUG</b>	08-02	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom) this is a Tuesday	WMR PCA
	08-07	Red Barn Spectacular	Gilmore Car Museum	J. Arens & A. Door
	08-20	Metro Cruise	GR Porsche	GR Porsche
<b>New</b>	08-21	Bursk's BBQ	Allegan, MI	CB & Kelly Bursk
	08-21	Nascar INFINITY 250	MI International Speedway	Non PCA event
<b>SEP</b>	09-04	Dinner Drive	Brew Works	P. Krapp
	09-11 to 09-12	Drivers Education	TBD	WMR PCA, Ted Blacklidge
	09-13	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom) this is a Tuesday	WMR PCA
	09-18	Garage Crawl	TBD	Kiebert
	09-25	Fall Color Tour	Traverse City	B. Brown



# 2021 EVENT CALENDAR

WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
<b>OCT</b>	10-04	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom) this is a Tuesday	WMR PCA
	10-09	October Fest	Gilmore Car Museum	Non PCA event
	10-16	Boardwalk Reunion	NJ	
<b>NOV</b>	11-01	Planning Meeting (2022 events)	TBD	WMR PCA
<b>DEC</b>	12-06	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom) this is a Tuesday	WMR PCA

## A LOOK BACK

The first day, the rules for the track were laid out, and the basic skills for race car driving were taught. Dan, their instructor was both a famous, and knowledgeable, race car driver. The second day, each member of the class would be given their own, pre-ordered, custom Porsche to drive on the Solitude Race Track. This track was built specifically to the racing requirements needed for championship competition, and Al could hardly wait to begin. He started out, at first, in his new Porsche, pressing, hard on the accelerator but, when he approached the first turn, he didn't slow down enough and his car went into a controlled slide! Al's blood pressure was probably way out of sight, as he took a deep breath and, carefully, guided his car into a masterful recovery.



*Control tower of the old Solitude race track near Stuttgart*

At the end of the practice, having come full circle on the track, Al tugged at his seat belt as he came to a stop. He was, now, nervously anticipating the disappointment in his teacher's voice. He was sure Dan Gurney would chastise him for going too fast. Instead, Dan casually said to him, "Nice recovery!" Surprising words to hear from a world-famous racing expert and champion, but Al still thought to himself, "He would not make that mistake again!" From that day on, Al would slow down before a curve, and then accelerate into the turn, which would give him more control of his car. That second day ended with complete satisfaction for both the Treffen students and

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

their famous teacher. The third day they were all on the track, again. This time, the students were allowed to just go at their own pace and practice as long as they chose to. At the end of the day, all of their new automobiles were taken back to the factory and carefully checked by expert Porsche mechanics.

The next day, all of the Porsche Club members were now completely on their own, touring Europe for two weeks, each member in their brand new Porsche. Al had also been very impressed with his trip to the factory, especially with the mechanics there. They were all very professional and wore white lab coats with their names on their front breast pocket. The Porsche factory logo was also displayed proudly on the back of their uniforms. He was very impressed with the other drivers traveling on the Treffen with him who didn't open their car doors, carelessly, without looking first. They were, to a man, very particular about their cars, like he was. By the time the Porsche Club members had returned to Stuttgart and had their farewell dinner, the factory mechanics had already prepared their new vehicles for transport to the United States. Everything for the owner's return trip was well arranged. Next, the members would fly into La Guardia Airport and pick up their cars from the Port of New York. Then they would all, proudly, drive them home."

With a PhD in Dental Hygiene, Darlyne Sabo Underhill has written three books, but she considers 'No Ordinary Man', available at Amazon, her most important work. Our gratitude and appreciation to Darlyne for sharing her writings with Über Alles.



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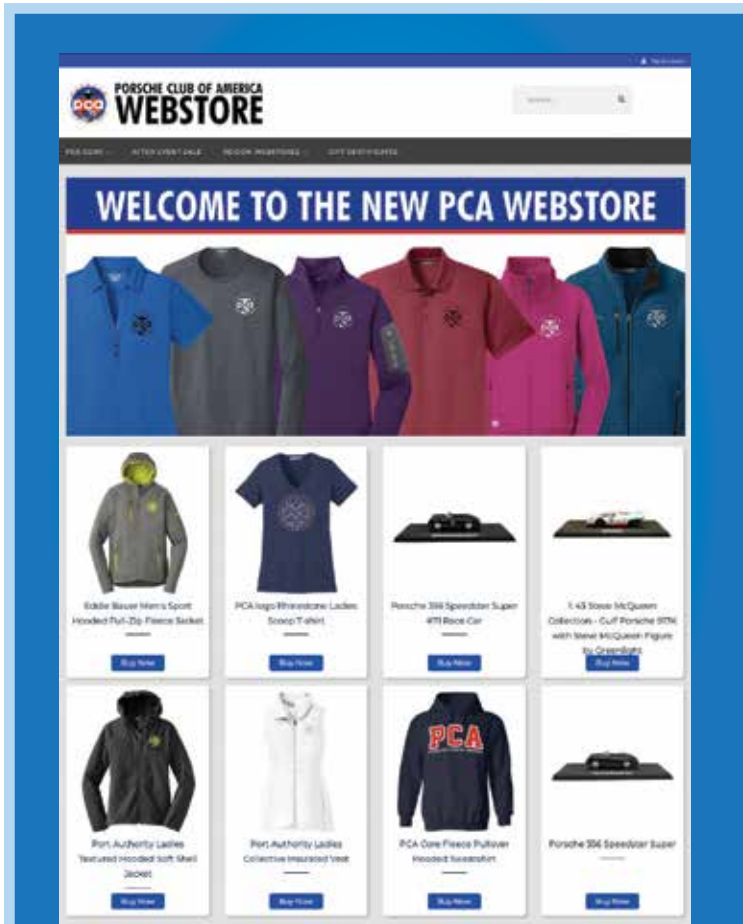
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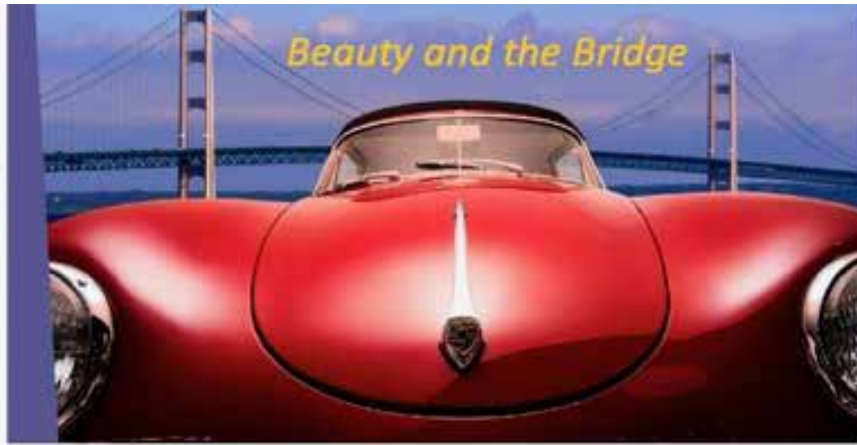
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## Porsche on the Mac II (reprise)

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- Escorted caravan drive across the Mackinac Bridge
- People's choice car show and Technical Quiz
- Straits Brew Festival
- Driving tours of scenic northern Michigan & Canadian North Shore
- Meet and greet other Porsche owners

Register now: <https://visitorsbureau.regfox.com/porsche-on-the-mac-2021>

## AROUND THE ZONE

HI ZONE 4 FRIENDS & FAMILY

BY: LORI SCHUTZ

Spring has sprung! As the pandemic is getting under control, sort of, and more of us are getting on vaccine, our events are starting to get back to normal. DE's are right around the corner and lots of event planning by your region committees. Check out your newsletter and website for opportunities to join in.

I would like to recommend that you think about writing an article about how you spent some of the winter, or spring. And that may be a suggestion for someone else. For example, in the off season I took a few trips - and drove a few Porsches! Check out the new Taycan - if you can find a dealer that has one! We found one in Phoenix when visiting my brother. There were a few available on the lot - what a great drive. Quiet and fast!



In March, we made a trip to Atlanta to the Porsche Experience Center, which yes, is open for the Driving Experience on their playground. Bring a few friends, check out the Heritage Display, and grab lunch at the 356 Café. Lots of great selections on the menu, although I had to go with the traditional Wiener Schnitzel! And where else is the butter for your bread in the mold shape of the 356 Porsche. Yes, the molds are available in the gift shop, along with this fun item - too bad they don't have one for grown-ups!



Parade Planning is in full swing, and I look forward to seeing many of you in French Lick in July. Check out the website for all the details at [porscheparade.org](http://porscheparade.org).

Take care, and stay safe!

Lori



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## DE OPPORTUNITY WITH INSTRUCTION

BY: TED BLACKLIDGE

### Attention Grattan Drivers

On April 23,24 & 25, the Audi Club Michigan will be holding a "Drivers Education" event at Grattan Raceway. They are planning for In Car and / or Lead-Follow instruction for new and advanced Grattan students. Final details not completely determined. Covid concerns will be observed by the Audi Club.

If you are interested, the Audi Club would really like for you to join them. MFD/Grattan

<https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/mfd-driving-experience-grattan-raceway-usaudiclub-classic-motors-523485>



Photo: WB

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### 2000 AUDI QUATTRO 2.7 TWIN TURBO



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### RARE PORSCHE PARTS

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### COPPER COATED OIL TANK

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Phone or text: (616) 215- 8416

1969 911 original right passenger seat, black, very good condition - \$250

1969 911 pair of original rear seats, black, good condition - \$250

1969 Porsche 911 deck lid engine cover, OEM, red, excellent condition - \$475

1969 911 rear center bumper body panel, OEM, yellow, excellent condition - \$300

1978 911 left turbo flare, OEM, good condition - \$285

1978 911 right door shell, OEM, white, excellent condition - \$400

1978 911 right door window frame, OEM, black, excellent condition - \$250

1981 928 hood, OEM, silver, fair - \$225

### Contact: George Brocker

### ADVERTISING RATES:

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.

#### Please send your ads to:

Wolfgang Bubeck  
Phone (616) 780.6590  
[uberwmr@gmail.com](mailto:uberwmr@gmail.com)

### CLASSIFIEDS:

Free for WMR members, \$3 for non-region PCA members, \$5 (2 lines) or \$10 (4 lines) for non-PCA members (3 months)

**Note:** Members must contact editor to renew. Editor reserves right to edit ads. Please refer to prices above.

### PAYMENT:

Please make checks payable to: WMR PCA






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## MEMBER PICS BY: WB

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Since the trophy for the enthusiast of the year could not be handed over at Winterfest as usual, where I could take a picture, we had to pay Amber a visit. It was not so easy to get her to pose, but with the help of a glass of wine and some convincing words I was able to snap the picture. Since she takes care of all the "stuff" that's needed in the PCA world, we even had the perfect backdrop for the occasion.

Just join our events and the trophy can be yours.

Also please consider Lori's comments on page 12 for a write-up. It also helps to garner enthusiast points.

*Wolfgang*

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## THE TAILPIPE

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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.

### Willkommen! — New Members & Transfers

James Novorita, Otsego, '17 Cayenne  
 Mark Pasquali, Mt. Pleasant, '09 911 Turbo  
 Cormick Raden, Caledonia, '07 Cayman S  
 Tim Steinberg, Rockford, '21 Boxster GTS  
 Greg Brncick, Holland, '14 Cayman S

### Glückwünsche! — Anniversaries

<b>45 years (1976)</b>	Terry Schieble
<b>10 years (2011)</b>	Robert & Rise Landeros Pete & Sue Stott
<b>1 year (2020)</b>	Mark Cavanaugh Mitchel & Kym Clark John Hanford Karan Josephus Bob Pekrul Phillip Stawski Bruce & Beth Wiegand Jennifer Wolf

## 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:



**Frank Conner**  
**3820 Egypt Valley Ave**  
**Ada, MI 49301**

**Please make your check payable to: WMR PCA.**



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