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Western Michigan Region

Let's Get Together:
Tech Session
2 Reviews
A Look Back:
By Peter Dykema
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PORSCHE



PORSCHE



IGNITION

JUNE 2021



Upcoming EVENTS

RED BARN SPECTACULAR

August 07, 2021

Hosts: A. Door & J. Arens

BURSK'S BBQ

August 21, 2021

Hosts: Kelly & CB Bursk

In this Issue...

President's Letter	4
Picnic Drive	4
A Look Back	5 - 6
Snapshots	7
2021 Event Calendar	8
Around the Zone	9
1964 Carrera GTS	12
Officers & Chairpersons	13
Classifieds	14
From the Editor	15
Tailpipe	15

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Porsche Grand Rapids.. Inside Front Cover	
Deming's Auto Collision	10
Lakeside Automotive	10
PCA News.....	10
Foreign Car Services.....	11
German Auto.....	11
Hubbs Insurance, Inc.	11
WMP PCA Badge	15
Mosaic Wealth	15
Euro Autowerks.....	Back Cover

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Über Alles

Western Michigan Region

On the cover:
Sporting Clays 2021 Parking
Not the usual crowd
Photo: Amber Door

LOOKING FORWARD

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Jim Chiavaras
President, Western Michigan Region

Well, here we are almost halfway through the year and we have only had one driving event so far which was hosted by Glenn and Lannie Eisenbrandt on 5/15, but that is about to change and after a year of masking we will be able to see the expressions of joy on everyone's faces when we can be free of facial covering's and return to a semi normal if not normal daily life. I for one will be glad to not have covid briefing meetings several times per week.

The weather this past weekend was quite good and we were able to travel to northern Michigan to see friends and family, enjoy driving on the winding roads and of course do yard work in preparation for summer.

Looking forward we have the sporting clays event at Blendon Pines gun club on 5/22 and the tech session at EuroAutowerks on 6/5.

See everyone soon and stay well,

Jim

IN REVIEW: PICNIC DRIVE

BY: GLENN EISENBRANDT

With winter over, on May 15th we all had an excuse to meet and drive our cars for the May Drive and Picnic. With it being a beautiful day, we had 22 cars show up for the drive, but we only had 20 do the actual drive. One car, which belonged to an unnamed mechanic, decided not to start when we left the meeting point at Tractor Supply. A friend stayed with them and they were able to get it started so they went directly to Townsend Park to start the picnic before the rest of us got there. After a spirited 44.6 mile drive, at all times following all the traffic laws especially speed limits (wink, wink), around several lakes north east of Grand Rapids with the longest straight section of 4 miles we ended up at Townsend Park for a picnic and socialization. Even better it was just after the CDC lifted the mask requirements for vaccinated people in outside settings so it almost seemed normal again.



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 · Phone: (616) 710-0122



A LOOK BACK

BY: PETER DYKEMA

The Western Michigan Region of the Porsche Club of America was established in 1960. Since then it has provided countless fine experiences and created many special and lasting friendships among its members. What follows are some of my recollections and memories of some charter members of PCA/WMR and other PCA old timers, their lives, cars, and their impact upon me which have enriched my life and love for all things Porsche, especially 356's.



Peter Dykema

In 1958, I was a junior in high school in Kalamazoo, MI. After the school day ended, I waited several blocks away for the city bus to transport me home. Occasionally on a nice day, an ivory Mercedes Benz 300SL Gullwing roared by, a car I could not take my eyes off of. It turned out to be driven by a fellow who lived in my neighborhood. Since all I talked about was cars, then as I do today, I mentioned more than once to a mutual friend about the Gullwing. As a result, surprisingly, the car appeared in my driveway one evening with an introduction to it and an offer to drive it. What a once in a lifetime experience that drive was. I drove it east on I94 when traffic was more civil and road quality was better. I redlined the tach in each gear and reached well in excess of 100mph in what seemed an instant. I never experienced any collection of sensations like that drive in my life before or since. Memories of the sounds, smells and overall sensation are clear to this day. Nothing like it. It turns out the owner of the car was the uncle of the local driver. He lived in South Bend, Indiana and his



Mercedes Benz 300SL Gullwing

name was John Alexander Sr. Although I never knew Mr. Alexander personally, he indirectly had an impact upon PCA/WMR which I'll explain further in a later episode. This was in 1962.

In 1966, this writer became the Director of the Computer Center at Kalamazoo College. Readers may know that "K" is a liberal arts school with a special focus on tennis.

Practice and tournaments were often held in Treadway Gymnasium on campus. Often while I walked to lunch, there would be a fine dark green 356C coupe parked in front of the gym. With some persistence, I finally met the car's owner, Jim Thorne (wife Mary). They were charter members of PCA/WMR and we subsequently visited often and became good friends. He was a local banker who played tennis at noon and loved Porsches. Sometime later, perhaps

1969, while on my noon time walk, I spotted a new Porsche 912 at Treadway. Jim had traded in the 356 in Ann Arbor, MI and often commented to me that in retrospect, he preferred the 356 to the 912. One day while visiting with Jim, he handed me a box containing all the Panoramas he had saved since joining PCA together with WMR Über Alles #1, which I still have in my library. I learned of Al and Arlyne Sabo from Jim, they too, were charter members of PCA/WMR who I wrote about in the previous issue of Über Alles. So began my extraordinary life long journey with Porsche cars and their fine owners.

In the mid 1960's, Kalamazoo College had 1 of 4 computers in the city. It performed administrative, academic research and computer science instruction tasks for the college as well as engineering consulting services for several local businesses. Ted Emerson was a structural engineer who used the college's computer for his work. He owned a 1956 Porsche Super Speedster with a Hirth roller crankshaft and parked it in front of the Administration



Bearings of the Hirth crankshaft

Building where I worked when he visited the Computer Center. He was there often, and I was continually subjected to the fine sound of that little car when he came or departed. The Speedster was originally owned by Ed Franco Ferrara who was head of the welding lab at the University of Tennessee at Oakridge. Ferrara used the car in local speed events. Interestingly, the car was in fact two cars welded together from two wrecked Porsches. One with front end damage, the other with rear damage.

Continued on page 6

A LOOK BACK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

The reconstruction was accomplished using a factory jig and was so expertly done as to be indistinguishable from factory construction. I became good friends with Ted, who still lives at the north end of Gull Lake near the Gilmore Car Museum. At the time he also owned an MG-TC. About 1970, he decided to buy a Jaguar XK-E to better compliment his MG and asked me if I was possibly interested in buying the Speedster. I was a more than an anxious customer. I bought my first 356 together with a coupe parts car all for the princely sum of \$1,250. Since I was new to this experience, Ted supplied me with invaluable advice, tech manuals, and suggestions for tools and equipment I would probably need to keep the car running.



Peter's first 356 - Almost factory stock

In 1971, I decided to join PCA and vividly recall the first Chapter meeting I attended in Grand Rapids. The first two members of the region who welcomed me were Bill Moses and Warren Holcomb. Someone at the meeting asked how many Speedsters were in the group. It turned



Trendy..... At the time.... And NOW

out there were three: Bill Moses, Warren Holcomb, and me. Two of those speedsters were correctly and often used, while one sat because its owner, me, didn't yet know how to correctly drive a Hirth Speedster. Bill Moses took it upon himself to remedy that. With a Hirth crankshaft, I was instructed to always keep the oil pressure up. The result of this was that every stoplight appeared to offer a challenge to drag race. My driving lesson with Bill went like this: I was the driver in Bill's speedster, Bill was the passenger. PCA members may recall Bill had size 13 shoes. His left foot went on the accelerator pedal over mine. I was told when to shift and to just pilot the car, and Bill would tend to the throttle. The experience was unnerving and exhilarating at the same time. Bill's was one fast Porsche. At the same time I met my neighbor, Bill Hallack, who with his wife Linda owned a 1961 356B Roadster. We became long time friends sharing many 356 adventures. Bill passed away in 2014. Linda recalled to me recently that Bill never joined PCA because to him, the membership was mostly 911 owners whose cars were much faster than 356's. As a matter of fact, I was blessed to witness many PCA/WMR speed events and hill climbs where Bill Moses and his little red 356 speedster took home fastest time of day awards. He was one smooth, fast driver, and cements the fact that 911's in the 1970's were not as fast as some 356's. As time passed with my speedster, I grew a bit weary of what a Hirth crankshaft demanded of me and decided perhaps a more refined super coupe might better compliment my more sedate driving style. Porsche Panorama Mart to the rescue.

To be continued.....with the story of Fritz, possibly WMR's longest-tenured member!

Sporting Clays

Photos: Amber Door & WB



SnapSHOTS



Picnic Drive



2021 EVENT CALENDAR

WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
JUN	06-05	Tech Session	Euro Autowerks 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
Any	All	Everything	WMR	You
Let us know what your plans are. We can add events down the road or send short term blasts. See contact options on page 13 for Social Events Coordinator or editor email.				
JUL	07-06	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom) this is a Tuesday	WMR PCA
	07-10	Deutsche Marques	Gilmore Car Museum	Non PCA event
	07-11 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
	07-31	IROC Autocross	Kentwood Community Church	WMR PCA
AUG	08-02	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom)	WMR PCA
	08-07	Red Barn Spectacular	Gilmore Car Museum	J. Arens & A. Door
	08-20	Metro Cruise	GR Porsche	GR Porsche
	08-21	Bursk's BBQ	Allegan, MI	CB & Kelly Bursk
	08-21	Nascar INFINITY 250	MI International Speedway	Non PCA event
SEP	09-04	Dinner Drive	Brew Works	P. Krapp
	09-11 to 09-12	Drivers Education	Grattan Raceway	WMR PCA, Ted Blacklidge
	09-13	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom)	WMR PCA
	09-18	Garage Crawl	TBD	Kiebert
	09-25	Fall Color Tour	Traverse City	B. Brown
OCT	10-04	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom)	WMR PCA
	10-09	October Fest	Gilmore Car Museum	Non PCA event
	10-16	Boardwalk Reunion	NJ	
NOV	11-01	Planning Meeting 2022 Events	TBD	WMR PCA
DEC	12-06	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom)	WMR PCA

AROUND THE ZONE

HI ZONE 4 FRIENDS AND FAMILY

BY: LORI SCHUTZ



We are now in full swing of PCA events, and life is getting back to normal! My kitties Hurley and Danica are enjoying the great weather. Over Mother's Day weekend, I joined Northern Ohio region at Mid-Ohio for their HPDE event. I had a blast instructing in-car for the first time in nearly 2 years with a wonderful young woman, Mary, who was there with her father. Lori Bryant and her husband Bob did a great job, and along with the Northern Ohio group and instructors from all around Zone 4 had a blast!



I just got back from the Indy 500 -Go Helio #4 win! On Carb day, Friday before the big race, the stands were scattered with 'Do Not Use' stickers, which ended up on many of our coolers and other race gear. And when visiting the garage area, masks were required. David and I visited the Firestone garage and learned that the tires for Indy are special in that the Firestone "F" logo is red on the right side and white on the left side of the car. The tires are constructed such that the outside is taller than the inside by a small amount, and if you roll a tire away it will

go in a circle, not straight! Each tire is only 17 pounds, and the wheel is 13, so that's why those hefty pit crew guys can throw them around with one hand! And while the pre-race message was 40% fans, I think that's because the infield wasn't open to fans - no Snake Pit this year. The grandstands were nearly to capacity, and the seat stickers were gone, at least in Turn 4 Northwest Vista where my brothers and I have had seats for over 40 years.

As the US gets back to normal, with many of us fully vaccinated, we can begin to return to our 'regularly scheduled program'. Many events are over-subscribed as the demand to get our Porsches out and be together is strong. I know that all are taking local precautions, and it's so great to see one another again. Check your region newsletter & website and the PCA National site for the current status of events in your area from Cars & Coffee, tours, drives, autocrosses, picnics and driver education events. Several of us are gearing up for:



Parade in French Lick July 11-18th.

<https://www.porscheparade.org/>

Concours of the Americas July 23-25th

<https://concoursusa.org/> Porsche Corral

Porsches on the Mac Aug 6-8th

<https://www.pca.org/events/porsche-on-the-mac-ii>.

For more PCA National and Inter-Regional events, visit:
<https://www.pca.org/events>

For the full PCA Club Racing Schedule, visit:
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Home

Porsche 992 Carrera 4 laughs off a winter storm

Danbury, December 29, 2020
Article and photos by Bob Stone

While it might not be as warm for members in places like the Snow Coast or Santa Barbara Regions, for a good chunk of the country it's about to get real as far as winter goes, and we have to make the decision to drive our cars or not drive them. We were normally able to avoid winter time in our 992 Carrera 4 as winter here in Northern Lower Michigan is brief, and we can report that it would be nothing less than critical to make this our last year.

Below: The Grand Traverse Tower and Spa, some haze for Porsche Parade in 2016.

Michigan is famously shaped like a mitten (the right one if your palm is facing your face). South of the mitten, the same cycle is a normal upper Midwest event: north, south, south kind of thing. But for Lake Traverses, where you get up to Cadillac, St Ignace, Lake St Ignace, there is a line of observation. Up north, it's hard to see beyond ground in late December, or for that matter, through April. So that's where we decided to head with the new C4.

Keep up with the latest Porsche news

PCA.org has a dedicated news blog to share new-Porsche debuts and general Porsche news, feature stories, DIY tips, videos, and much more. Bookmark the PCA News blog for easy reading.

READ MORE: www.pca.org/news



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*I'm not leavin'
until you kick me out.*

1964 CARRERA GTS

A STORY BY: ROBERT JOHNSON

During the third or fourth week in January 1964, a number of new 1964 Carrera GTS Coupes arrived in the United States; most likely by air freight. Three of these cars in a shipment that may have been as many as twelve included chassis 904-011 and 904-012 that were delivered to Precision Motors in Los Angeles, 904-013 that was delivered to Bob Hagestad in Denver, and this example, 904-104 that was delivered to Frank Rand III in Chicago, IL. He was one of the youngest VW/Porsche dealers in the US at the time.



These photos were taken most likely during the first or second week of February in 1964 at the Volkswagen dealership on North Clark Street in Chicago. Along with a set of four-view drawings obtained from Porsche AG, the data was used by Monogram Models, Inc. to design and create 1/24th scale and 1/32nd scale model kit and equivalent slot racing car kits. They remain among the most accurate replicas of the Carrera GTS.

904-014 was sold to Harry Heuer who was best known as the lead driver of the Meister Brauser Racing Team competing in front-engined Scarabs and a similar Chaparral. He did not keep the 904 long and sold to Ed Wechsler of Milwaukee who did not race the care either. During the



Winter of 1964/1965, Jacques Duval purchased the car for \$7500 and drove it home to Quebec riding on VW wheels and winter snow tires. The 904

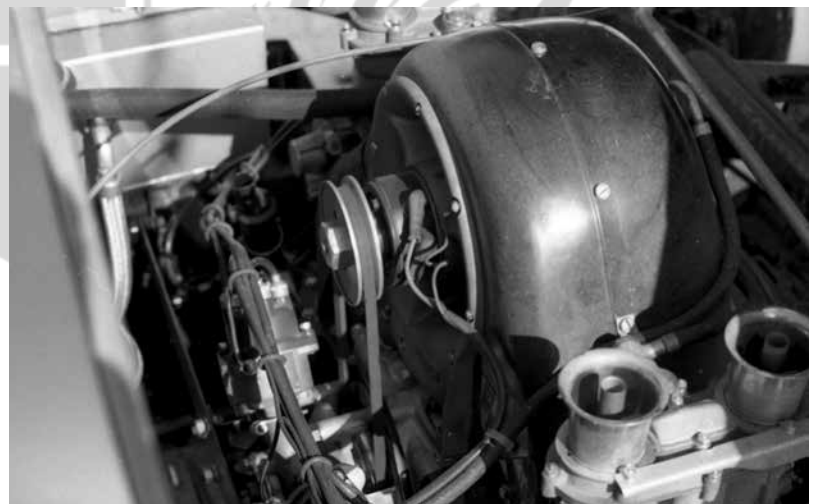


was raced with great success in 1965 and 1966 until it was replaced with a Porsche Carrera 906 purchased from the estate of the late Doug Revson. By that time, the 904 had been repainted several times and was last seen in an overall red color. It was sold to Tim

Kuser in 1975 and recent photos show it to be in good condition still fitted with the Nardi steering wheel.



Photos by: Ken Merker



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IN REVIEW: SPORTING CLAYS 2021

BY: AMBER DOOR

After a COVID related hiatus in 2020 an enthusiastic group of WMR members and their children braved the woods to eradicate the world from the infamous orange clay pigeons (every participant managed to shoot a few from the skies)! The weather was literally picture perfect, not only for a stroll on the groomed trails in the woods, but for Porsche driving to and from the woods as well.

Our group was a bit smaller this year with 12 gun toting participants (we had several that came to spectate only). We welcomed the Palmer family back for their second year and were glad to see new (to us) member Kevinn Donovan and his son Cooper at their second event in a week along with daughter Emma.

Our top shooters of the day were - male: Chase Palmer with 32 damaged clays and female: Emma Donovan. It was Emma's and Coopers first time shooting a gun and she managed to hit 9 targets and he hit 14 - with a 410!

Everyone that participated is looking forward to next year. We were unable to plan a lunch gathering for the group due to ongoing COVID restriction, but hopefully this can be resumed following the event in 2022.



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Contact: George Brocker

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

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:

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CLASSIFIEDS:

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

New:

Limited to buy or sell club related items only. Space for business ads needs to be purchased as listed above.

Note: Members must contact editor to renew.

Editor reserves right to edit ads.

PAYMENT:

Please make checks payable to: WMR PCA

FROM THE EDITOR

DRIVERS ED



Everything seems to get better in terms of socializing and feeling free again. Nevertheless there is still consequences to our beloved routines of yesteryear.

As you might already know we will not have any instructors for our September event in Grattan as a precautionary step.

If you are interested to gain or improve your track experience, there are other events where lead follow instructions will be provided.

Please check out the schedule of the Grattan Raceway for events from Rally Sport on June 11 - 13 and from Maumee Valley on July 23 - 25. This is the only way to participate in our annual Grattan Raceway event if you don't have any track experience yet.

Enjoy driving, slow and easy, unless you join one of the events.

Wolfgang

THE TAILPIPE

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

- Bren Olsen, Pierson, '85 911 Cab
- Giovanni Tinervia, Rockford, '99 911
- James & Tammy Paris, Greenville, '13 Cayenne GTS, '11 Panamera Turbo, '92 911
- Test Drive: Tim Murray, Grand Rapids
- Transfer In:
 - Joe Bellemore, GR - From Maumee Valley, '08 911 S
 - Kevinn Donovan, Ada - From Las Vegas, '79 911SC, '03 911

Glückwünsche! — Anniversaries

- 30 years (1991)** Jerry & Julie Valade
- 20 years (2001)** Terry & Melinda Haehnel
John & Marshall Walters
- 15 years (2006)** Haig & Ann Kassouni
Tom & Gretchen Pixley
- 10 years (2011)** James & Maggie Woodruff
- 5 years (2016)** Kirk & Portia Briggs
Mark Rohde
Harry TenBrink
- 1 year (2020)** John Brownlow, Leslie Ingram,
Greg Johns, Mark Lauterbach
Dani Liblang, Chandler McCallum
Philippe Mook, Shane Piers
Maggie Zahrai

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