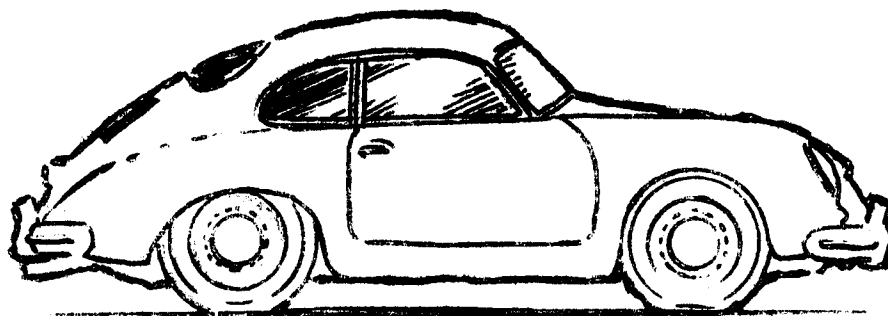




WESTERN MICHIGAN



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1, No. 7

15 November 1961

OCTOBER EVENT

The October event was held on the 21st at Erich Bechler's Porsche Emporium in Grand Rapids. Considering the competition from SCCA's Paul Bunyan Rally, University of Michigan's Homecome week end, the awakening of the bowling season, a couple of parties, a wedding, and one bashed Porsche, a turnout of 19 people was gratifying.

The first case on the docket was a technical session in Erich's shop where various parts and pieces of Dr. Porsche's wondrous thingamabob were set up for display and discussion.

After the session in the shop, the group trekked across the courtyard to Gustel Bechler's living room for movies. Before the movies started, bottles of imported German beer were opened and everyone sat down in comfort to enjoy the 1960 Porsche Treffen via Bill Sholar's 16MM Kodachrome sound movie. After the movie, Hostess Bechler served delicious home-made goodies, coffee, more beer if you wanted it, and more goodies if you could still waddle.

Many thanks to Erich & Gustel for hosting an enjoyable and gracious evening.

DECEMBER MEETING

Our next meeting will be held December 9th at Green Ridge Country Club in Grand Rapids. **THIS MEETING IS IMPORTANT. ALL MEMBERS SHOULD ATTEND.** In addition to the social aspects, it is our annual business meeting. Officers for the coming year will be nominated, the proposed by-laws for the Region will be presented for discussion and final formulation. (The by-laws will go out for ratification along with the ballot for election of officers prior to January 1st.) A report of the recent PCA-POAC difficulties will be given along with other business covered at the National Board of Directors Meeting in October. Our first year will be reviewed and evaluated. Recommendations for the coming year should be presented by the membership for discussion. PCA Western Michigan will soon be one year old. We have had a good start but we must follow through and continue to build a better and more active organization. Through the year, we have picked up six new members--a good record; however, we lost two from the region because of moves to other parts of the country.

So reserve December 9th--it is important that you attend. All members as of December 9th will be considered charter members of the Western Michigan Region. Attached is a roster as of 11-14-61.

* * * *

NEXT YEAR'S DUES

National dues for 1962 will be \$15.00. \$10.00 goes to the national organization, \$1.00 for insurance and \$4.00 to the Region. Family membership will be included free and the family member can vote and hold office. As usual, first year members (those who joined in 1961) will have the unused portion of their initial membership payment credited against their 1962 dues.

* * * *

US GRAND PRIX at Watkins Glen / N. Y.

DAN GURNEY'S PORSCHE PLACED SECOND

On October 8th the last race counting for the 1961 World Championship, the "US Grand Prix", took place on the 2,3 mls. circuit at Watkins Glen /New York. The 100 lap race saw Dan Gurney's Porsche Formula I crossing the finish line in second position with only 5 seconds to winning Innes Ireland.

With this fine success Dan Gurney and Stirling Moss both rank third in the 1961 Automobile World Championship with 21 points each.

Joakim Bonnier's Porsche finished sixth, due to a pit stop caused by a small gravel stone hooked under his gas pedal.

(Continued next page)

Results

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------|---------------------|
| 1. Innes Ireland | LOTUS | 2:13,45 = 103,2 mph |
| 2. Dan Gurney | PORSCHE | |
| 3. Tony Brooks | BRM | |
| 4. Bruce McLaren | COOPER | |
| 5. Graham Hill | BRM | |
| 6. Joakim Bonnier | PORSCHE | |

Airport races Innsbruck / Austria:

TWO PORSCHE DRIVERS WON AUSTRIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The race for sportscars up to 1600 cc at the Innsbruck airport on October 8th was won by Franz Albert on Porsche RSK in front of Bradshaw / Lotus and Schoery / Porsche 550. With this victory Franz Albert won the Austrian National Sportscar Championship.

Siggi Guenther on Porsche Carrera passed the chequered flag as winner of the 1600 GT race, followed by Sepp Greger and the Dutch Ben Pon, both also driving Porsche Carreras. The Austrian Porsche driver Herbert Nosek became Austrian National Gran Turismo Champion.

Rallye de Verviers / Belgium:

OVERALL VICTORY BY PORSCHE TEAM CLEMENS / STAPELAERE

On a Porsche Abarth Carrera the team Clemens / Stapelaere won the Rallye de Verviers in Belgium overall as well as the Gran Turismo class up to 1600 cc of the same competition.

Results

Overall:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Clemens / Stapelaere | PORSCHE ABARTH CARRERA |
| 2. Patte / Libotte | VOLVO SPEZIAL |
| 3. Charlier / Mosbeux | FORD SPEZIAL |
| 4. Sander / Rebetez | PORSCHE SUPER 90 |

GT class up to 1600 cc:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Clemens / Stapelaere | PORSCHE ABARTH CARRERA |
| 2. Lejeune / Leboutte | ALFA ROMEO SV |

The six special "epreuves" were won by Clemens in record time.

* * * *

PCA-POAC SWEETNESS AND LIGHT

The backstage donnybrock between a fevered few in high places in Porsche Club of America and Porsche of America Corporation has been settled amicably. Apparently both sides proved worthy adversaries and decided they needed each other after all. All is now sweetness and light again and the relationship between these two fine organizations is not only stronger but better oriented for mutual benefit of both.

* * * *

STOP LIGHTS

A Potomac Region Porsche Pusher found out the hard way that the ignition on a Porsche must be on for the brake lights to work. Somehow or other, he got a ticket for inoperable stop lights for which he paid a fine. Subsequently, he stormed into the local Porsche service and demanded repairs whereupon he was given Lesson No. 1, i.e., turn on the ignition key. Backing out abashed, he made off to the court and retrieved his fine. Well, that's a new one!

* * * *

BITS AND PIECES

New '62 models have little horizontal sliding controls on the dash above the radio panel for controlling the air inlets located in the cowl just forward of the windshield. Do we hear cries of anguish from the purists?

'62 production line regulars are down to two models, the coupe and the cabriolet. The coupe has the option of a sun roof. Convertibles and hardtops will not be available. What's behind it isn't quite clear at this point. Some say the diversification into many models was detrimental to quality of body work and the factory is again limiting the line to the original two regular models so as to improve quality and lower cost (we hope). Cost is becoming a more important factor everyday, especially with the strong competition from Alfa Romeo.

What's happened to the Porsche flat eight Formula I engine? Porsche needs it to ward off the increasingly stronger competition.

Old time PCAer George Duvall of the Potomac Region mentioned an incident at Marlboro involving "King Carrara" Bruce Jennings. Storming out of a banked curve from the top most line to move past a Corvette, Jennings made two pointing jabs to the inside and watch out if the Corvette driver didn't see him because the bellowing four was placed "right then" where he pointed. George says you might say Bruce drives to win.

Charlie Beidler who wrote the article in Pano on Jennings deplores the very high cost of winning the national class championship. Maintaining four cam shafts and participation in a national area can be financially overwhelming.

(Continued next page)

Beidler, by the way, has bought a Porsche-based special to run his Super 90 engine in next year.

Sam Mantel of Cleveland got a surprise in glancing into the open engine compartment of a Porsche standing in a gas station. In the compartment was not only a Carrera engine but a supercharger to boot. Just the thing for running back and forth to the grocery store.

The four races at Grayling had their exciting moments but big bore machinery was scarce. After a weekend of changing spark plugs at Indianapolis Raceway Park and a fine one-gear-only effort at Waterford Hills, Phil Gidley (Mt. Pleasant) and his neighbor brought their 748cc special to Grayling loaded for bear (and Martin Tanner). After warming up the little Panhard Norton Minx, it hit a firm 90 mph plus only to have the main and rod bearings seize due to oil pump failure. It is a low red job with a Novi tail fin, front wheel drive, four cam shafts and two very large Dell'Orto carbs.
(Ed. Note: What gives with your Speedster, Phil?)

Also at Grayling, Jerry Brown (Berrien Springs) moved his Super 90 convertible around smoothly but couldn't match Davis' Daimler in C production. The Super 90 has rough going in SCCA but Jerry hopes a complete selection of gears will help his position next year.

* * * *

DON'T FORGET THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING DECEMBER 9TH

AT GREEN RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB - GRAND RAPIDS

INSTRUCTIONS TO FOLLOW

COCKTAILS AT 6:30 P.M. - DINNER AT 7:30 P.M.

* * * *

FROM KALAMAZOO SPORTS CAR CLUB

Advance Registration Notice

PRESS ONWARD PILGRIMS RALLYE

November 19, 1961

Start at Southland Shopping Center parking lot US 131 at Milham Road, Kalamazoo

Sign in at 9:00 to 10:00 A. M. first car out at 10:15 A. M.

Fee \$2.00 per car until noon November 18, preregistration will save you \$.50 per car (\$2.50 per car day of rally)

Combined time and distance and simple grid reference type

No algebra, geometry, protractor or long-range transit required

A sharp pencil and 18" straightedge will get anyone to the grid reference check points (car and driver recommended)

Trophies for FOUR places, driver and navigator

Results promised no later than 30 minutes after you reach the Airway Lanes

CONTACT

Fred Marion
5223 Old Colony Road
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Fireside 4-2627

Ed Hiss
1320 Turwill Lane
Kalamazoo, Mich.
Fireside 3-5061

Driver _____ Navigator _____

Make of Car _____

Club Affiliation _____

Mailing address _____

PCA Western Michigan Region
2425 Breton Road, S. E.
Grand Rapids 6, Michigan



Mr. Philip A. Gidley
103 E. Belkows
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA
WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION
ROSTER

11-14-61

Mr. & Mrs. John L. Alexander
2746 Elmwood Drive, S. E.
Grand Rapids 6, Michigan

Mr. John P. Baker
4603 Chippewa Drive
Okemos, Michigan

Mr. & Mrs. Erich Bechler
705 Eastern Avenue, S. E.
Grand Rapids 6, Michigan

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald P. Brown
RR #1, Box 387
Berrien Springs, Michigan

Mr. Carleton H. Clark
RR #1, Box 204
Delta River Drive
Lansing, Michigan

Mr. Richard Davidson
4445 Wasaw
Okemos, Michigan

Mrs. Dorothy M. DeJonge
1249 Kinsey Road, N. W.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Miss Judi Ann DeJonge
1249 Kinsey Road, N. W.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Mr. Paul F. C. Despres
860 Maryland, N. E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Kent A. Dewey, M. D.
3205 Bonnell, S. E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Mr. Norman A. Dunn
W. E. Dunn Manufacturing Co.
Holland, Michigan

Robert R. Garneau, M. D.
606 N. Gaylord Street
Ludington, Michigan

Mr. Philip A. Gidley
103 E. Ballows
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

Mr. Fred Greene
815 State Street
St. Joseph, Michigan

Mr. & Mrs. Fredric A. Grimm
1810 Oak Avenue
No. Muskegon, Michigan

Mr. Arthur P. Jones
5120 Morningside Drive
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Mr. Bernard H. Jordan
2109 Coronado, S. E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Mr. Gerald E. Kirschbaum
325 Park Street
Alma, Michigan

Mr. John J. Mears
941 Hastings Street
Traverse City, Michigan

Mr. Raymond W. Olson
1430 Forest Hills Drive
Okemos, Michigan

Mr. William B. Otten
245 S. Burdick Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Mr. J. C. Owen
2425 Breton Road, S. E.
Grand Rapids 6, Michigan

Frank H. Power, M. D.
521 - 6th Street
Traverse City, Michigan

Mr. Bret S. Riley
Box 508
East Jordan, Michigan

Mr. Al Sabo
RR #6, Box 302
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Dr. & Mrs. Wm. J. Schwalm
110 W. Colby Street
Whitehall, Michigan

Richard L. Thirby, M. D.
1315 Wayne
Traverse City, Michigan

Mr. & Mrs. James M. Thorne
3315 Lorraine Avenue
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Mr. John S. VanderHeide, Jr.
1730 Clearbrook, S. E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan