









SAVE THE DATE!

Upcoming EVENTS

NO 2022 EVENTS PLANNED

Planning meeting on Nov. 8

See calendar on P. 8 for details

PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA Western Michigan Region

IGNITION

NOVEMBER 2021

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ON THE COVER

Fall Tour at the Grand Traverse Commons Photo: Wolfgang Bubeck

GREETINGS EVERYONE

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Jim Chiavaras President, Western Michigan Region

November came upon us quite fast again and that means another end to the driving season except for those brave enough to put snow tires on their sports cars and continue their use throughout winter.

The holiday season is rapidly approaching which is a great time to reflect on all the good times we have had this past year with friends and family. I am thankful for family, friends and for remaining healthy after all we have been through in the past year and a half. Getting together with Porsche club members these past few months has been especially good.

I am also thankful for my fellow PCA board members and the volunteers who make our club run as smooth as a Stuttgart machine. As we look ahead it is time for our annual planning meeting to be held on November 8 at Linear. Other than the planning meeting we have another chance to gather for food, fun and conversation at Garage Kept Motors on November 11 at 6 P.M.

Looking back we had the Grattan HPDE event on September 11 and 12, thanks to all who worked to make it a success, the garage crawl on September 18 at Caleb Kieberts, and the Fall Color Tour on September 25 in Traverse City hosted by Bill Brown, Jay Dankovich, and Gary Castile which proved to be an outstanding drive and good camaraderie afterwards and we were blessed with good weather.

Thanks to everyone who hosted these events.

I wish everyone a safe and joyful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

All the best.

Jim

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THE LITTLE SILVER CAR THAT COULD...

CONTINUED FROM LAST MONTH BY RICK RILEY

The target for the cars debut was the Porsche Parade in French Lick Indiana. Rob Clark and I worked for 100+ hours cleaning, polishing and touching up every nook and cranny on any surface you can think of on this vehicle. The PCA judges are very through and very creative as to where they look for dirt. How about behind the gas pedal as an example!



Rob Clark & Rick Riley

The car was ready for the Porsche Parade Concours d'Elegance when it went in my trailer in Grand Rapids.



The little silver '67 911S

It and Jeff Kolk arrived on the Sunday before the Monday Concours. One positive thing about the show being in the parking structure is that you could place your car the night before, cover it and not have to worry about a 5am alarm to get your car to the show field.

Everyone was very complementary of the car. I was pleased that Jeff was there to hear the engine judge say "WOW" when we opened the lid (Jeff built, detailed and installed the engine and transmission). Afterward the rear chassis judge came back and said, "Out of the 8 cars I have judged so far, your car is by far the best!" The exterior (head judge) put a note on our score sheet "perfect wheels"! (Thank you Harvey Weidman)

When the scores finally were posted the little silver 911S was in first place with a score of 298.7 out of 300!!! Amazing!



Amazing tech for '67 and pretty clean down there...

Then the shenanigans started. You can no longer protest someone else's car but you can protest your own score if you think the judges were in error. 2nd place had a score of 298.5 and protested one of the judges scores. The place ribbons had been awarded by this time and the little Silver 67 911S that could had a first place blue ribbon on the windshield! Unbeknownst to me while I was in the protest committee room watching what was happening, my first place ribbon was removed and a 2nd place red ribbon was unceremoniously left on my chair



From blue to red...

in its place! The protest by the 2nd place car was upheld and 3/10 were added back to his overall score putting him 1/10 ahead of our car and in first place. Exasperating? Absolutely! I should have put the Blue Ribbon in the trunk!

The total deductions by all the judges on our 911 was 13/10s of a point for the entire car. The front trunk judge was responsible for 6/10s out of the 13/10s deductions. After the show, doing my research, 2 of the items that he dinged us on were protestable. Had those 6/10s not been deducted, we would have scored 299.3 and finished in first place! BOOM! Continued on page 9



IN REVIEW - TRAVERSE CITY FALL TOUR

BY FRANK CONNER

PHOTOS WOLFGANG BUBECK

Bill Brown

After a two year, COVID induced respite, the club returned to the Traverse City area for a color tour. Over 60 cars gathered on a warm, mostly sunny, autumn day at the lower end of Leelanau Peninsula. Along with our normal band of enthusiastic WMR members, we were joined by three Hagerty representatives and Panorama's Editor-in-Chief Rob Sass.



Rob Sass

Staging in multiple groups, we drove north to almost the peak of the peninsula, looping back and stopping at Marina Park in Northport. After a bathroom break. camaraderie, and cookies, we headed south. Eventually we ended our day in the Piazza at The Village of Grand Traverse Commons. There we had access to food





and refreshments and were treated with a charcuterie plate for each car and a presentation by Robb Sass on the future of Panorama.

Bill Brown, Gary Castile, and crew created a delightful route with curves and beautiful surroundings, were highly effective in managing the large number of cars, and as always were gracious hosts. The event was a fitting end to the club's scheduled driving events for 2021.



wmr.pca.org

2021 EVENT CALENDAR

WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)			
Any	All	Everything	WMR	You			
Planning Meeting: Bring your ideas to the table on Mon. Nov. 8 at our planning meeting. The entire restaurant will be ours. RSVP required by 11-01-21 to Marshall Walters 616-780-1210 text/call.							
NOV	11-08	Planning Meeting 2022 Events	Linear Restaurant 1001 Monroe, Grand Rapids	WMR PCA			
DEC	12-06	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom)	WMR PCA			

THE ENGINE FOR THE LITTLE SILVER CAR THAT COULD...





We're looking for event hosts for 2022

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



ACCESS THE MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES ON OUR WEBSITE.
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THE LITTLE SILVER CAR THAT COULD...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5 BY RICK RILEY

However, I did not have that back up information on show day. That's Concours!



Rick and one of the judges

Our/my goal was to establish the condition and quality of work done on the 67S. A score of 289.7 and a Gmund award from PCA National for achieving that score certainly accomplished that.



While waiting for the result, admirers stopped by frequently.

Next on the agenda, the Concours of America at the St John's Inn, previously known as the Meadow Brook Concours. This is an invitation only show like Amelia Island and Pebble Beach.

As luck would have it, the night before the show, it again rained buckets! Just like French Lick! How could lightning strike twice? The golf course was too wet to support cars, so the Concours was held in the parking lots surrounding the St John's Inn.

I was parked next to a beautiful silver 1970 Mercedes 280SE convertible. It's nut and bolt restoration was done by none other than Mercedes Classic in LA, basically the factory.

This level of Concours is more of a beauty contest. The judges not only judge the car and it's provenance, but they also judge the owner for knowledge and enthusiasm. After judging was completed, first place went to a very deserving, stunning, gold Rolls Royce convertible.

Now for the fun! The judges were so impressed with both the little silver 911S and the Mercedes that they couldn't decide between them. In what I thought was a real show of class, they split the second place award and gave both cars second place ribbons! Wow!

I thought the Mercedes owner might be a little upset, so I went over to him to shake his hand congratulate him. He said "he was honored to split second place with the 911", I returned the compliment. To be judged on a par with the Mercedes factory, I'd say the boys from Grand Rapids, Holland, Mentor Ohio and California did OK! So now the LITTLE SILVER 67 911S THAT COULD rests comfortably in my garage. We have some work to do to turn it into a running, driving 911S rather than a rolling piece of artwork, but we have plenty of time for that now. This adventure took the work of many talented people. Bill Kemper of Panel Werks, Jeff Kolk, Rob Clark, Mark Smedley, Harvey Weidman and Joe Jakubus just to mention a few.

If you are thinking about Porsche Parade Concours d'Elegance drop me a line. I have learned some valuable lessons.

Until then, see you down the road.....





Rick Riley with his 2nd place trophy that could...









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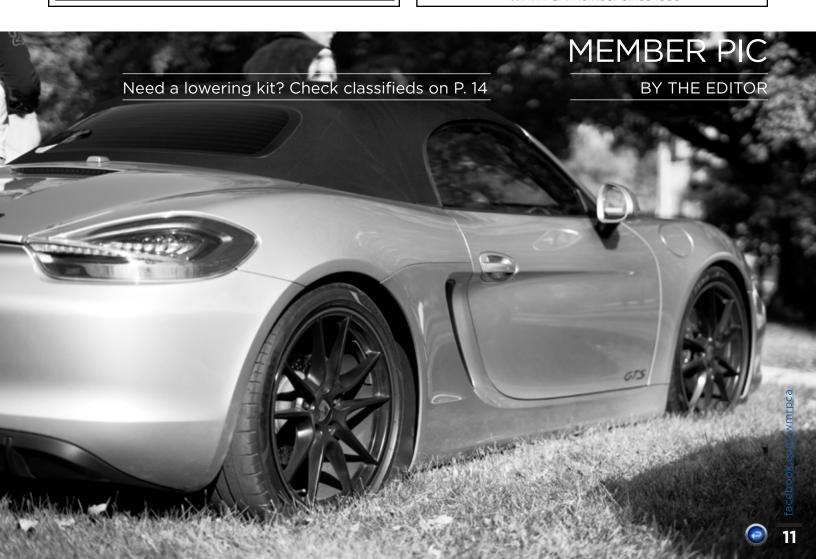
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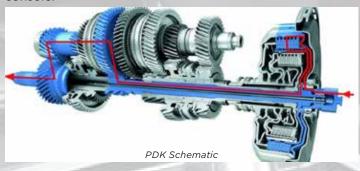


STICK... OR NOT

BY RICK RILEY

I've read a lot about the Porsche PDK versus a Stick Shift (manual for you weenies), and had the opportunity to drive both extensively. I'm a stick shift kind of guy, and drive one every day in my 2004 Mini Cooper S. It keeps my hands and feet active for the race car, and I enjoy it. The new Porsche 6 Speeds are a joy to behold. As many of you know there is nothing more satisfying than being one with your stick shift Porsche on a good road. If you get it right it's amazing. It takes effort and experience to get to that point, but it is rewarding.

Enter the PDK, or Doppelkupplung, or double clutch transmission. *The paddle shifter!* In some models you can either use the paddles or the + or - selector on the console.



The PDK a is an amazing achievement in engineering, it shifts gears in milliseconds! Go to the race track, put the PDK in sport, and all you have to concentrate on is steering, braking and the gas pedal. The transmission anticipates the track, down shifts, and upshifts before you could think about doing it. Believe me, I've tried.

The PDK doesn't miss, it isn't late, and it doesn't forget to down shift. It truly is the ultimate track weapon! I believe Porsche demonstrated that car for car, same driver, same day, the PDK is worth 2 car lengths at the Nürburgring vs the stick.

Ok, so the PDK is amazing, right? There are also other considerations, your faithful scribe had to have right shoulder surgery last year, which makes using a stick shift against Doctors orders. 1st and 2nd weren't a problem, but 3rd hurt. Fortunately I was able to use a PDK part of the time. Controlling 500hp with your two index fingers is awe inspiring. Let the car shift itself or use the paddles with your fingers! It's a great alternative.

Last but not least I have had the opportunity to drive the new 2019 911 Speedster 6 speed stick. That is the only way the car is offered, no PDK. I have to say it is the best, smoothest, most rewarding stick shift I have ever driven. Smoother and better than the 2018 GT3 6 speed stick and that is saying something.



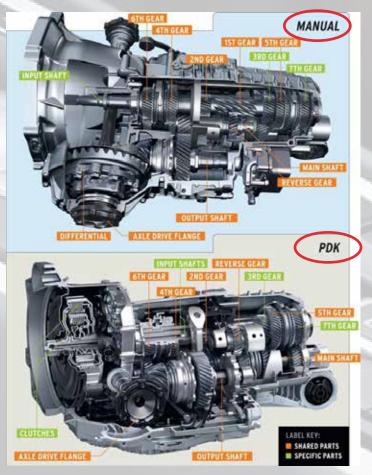
The best manual transmission driving experience?

Summing up, there is no right or wrong answer. If you have any restrictions, a mate that doesn't like a 3 peddle car, if you plan on a lot of cruising and need to be concentrating on things other than what gear you are in, or if you are a city dweller, I suggest to try a PDK equipped car. You can let the car do the work or if you want to have fun shift it yourself. It is an amazing piece of engineering. If you enjoy shifting your own gears, as I do, the 6 Speed is the way to go.

Porsche has given us two fantastic options, choose whichever fits your situation.

Until next time, see you down the road.....





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1 year (2020)

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Please extend a warm "Willkommen" to our new members and transfers.

Robert Schneider, Traverse City, '14 911 S David Bates, Grand Blanc, '21 Cayenne Jeffrey & Louise Wing, Byron Center, '88 911 Michael Kaminski, Grand Rapids, '19 Cayenne S Yoshiro Yamamoto, Kalamazoo, '15 911 S Mike Fisher, Traverse City, '16 Cayman GT4

Transfer In:

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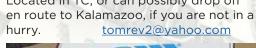
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AROUND THE ZONE

DEAR ZONE

BY: LORI SCHUTZ



My article this month is more 'not around the zone' than around. Due to some personal commitments, I was not able to attend some of the fantastic fall color tours that I read about on your Facebook pages and websites.

One commitment I had was to attend the Formula 1 race in Austin Texas, at the Circuit of the Americas - COTA. Since this was canceled in 2020, it was so great to get back to a sense of normalcy, as we are all enjoying in various aspects of our lives.

We met up with great friends Max and Mary Ann, and some of my former Maverick Region buddies, for our seats in the best grandstand ever – Turn 12. We had seats on the top row, with the rest of the Porsche Club contingent, about 20 of us.



COTA Formula 1!

A few weeks prior, Daniel Ricciardo who drives for McLaren, won a bet with his boss Zac Brown, McLaren CEO. The bet was that if Daniel got to a podium finish before COTA, he would get to drive a few laps with the Monte Carlo owned by Zac that Dale Earnhardt drove to the 1984 NASCAR championship. Dani-Ric as we call him, spun donuts in 4 corners in his final lap – hilarious.

Enjoy your fall events!



David Clardy and Max Willis at F1 COTA

For those of you who haven't gone to a professional race, there are a few handy tips. First – if you can, pre-purchase parking in a designated lot near the track – and then be patient leaving. This makes the trip into the track so much easier and then you can go back and forth to the car if you need to – to drop off swag purchases, etc. Speaking of which, do your shopping on Friday and Saturday, cuz Sunday on race day is a zoo. So many people. This year, the crowd on Friday was amazing. I also recommend walking around the venue to enjoy the track from all angles, specifically at a road course. You'll want to do this during the support race group sessions, which can be equally as exciting as the main event. The COTA race featured Formula W – all women drivers. Great open wheel fun.



Dani-Ric doing Donuts in Dale Earnhardt's car

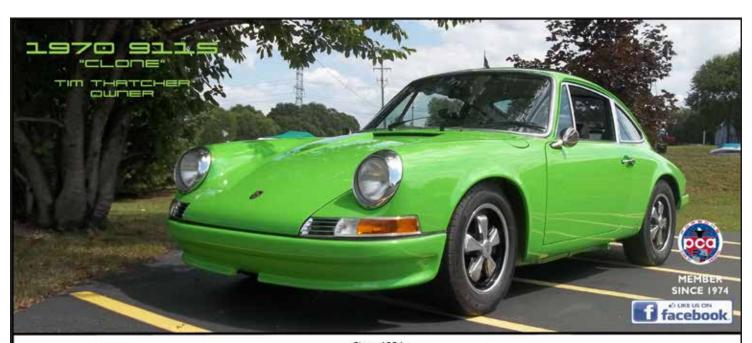
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