

PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA Über Alles Western Michigan Region

Let's Get Together:

In Review: 2 Events

Red Barn Spectacular

Open House

A Look Back:

Grattan Raceway Owner E.J.

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PORSCHE



IGNITION

AUGUST 2021



Upcoming EVENTS

OCTOBER FEST

October 10, 2021

Non PCA event

BROADWALK REUNION

October 16, NJ

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On the cover:
Porsche display of vinyl art at Parade in French Lick. Background is a video display captured at the right moment.
Photo: WB

QR code moved to back page.

PORSCHES CLUB OF AMERICA

Uber Alles

Western Michigan Region

I LOVE A PARADE

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Jim Chiavaras
President, Western Michigan Region

It is hard to believe that we are in the 3rd week of July already. All of the anticipation leading up to Parade is now behind us and what a great time we all had at the French Lick Resort. It was quite an enjoyable week of friends, food, and of course Porsches both new and the classics. This was our first parade and will certainly be one of many to come.

It was also enjoyable to meet people from other regions and share Porsche stories. We had a great showing from our West Michigan group.

Greg and Karlene Currie took first place in their class with their 1997 911 Cabriolet.

Rick Riley and co-entrant Jeff Kolk took second place in the restoration class for 911/912 for years 1965-1973.

The Concours unfortunately had to be held in the parking garage rather than outdoors due to rain and while still being a great showcase of the work that went into the vehicle prep it would have been even more enjoyable in the natural light.

Wolfgang Bubeck took third place in the national newsletter contest.

Caleb Kiebert took second place in the golf tournament, he also had the longest drive in the men's division golf tournament and third place in his class in the RC on road.

Congratulations to all of our winners.



You made the club proud.

For those of you who would like to look up the results please refer to the following link:

<https://www.porscheparade.org/parade-results>

Upcoming events for August include our monthly board meeting on August 2, the Red Barn Spectacular on August 7 hosted by Amber Door and Jerry Arens, The German Auto Service grand opening on August 14, the GR Metro Cruise on August 20, and the NASCAR infinity 250 at MIS on August 21.

While at Parade I was able to experience SIM racing and have to say that it was quite fun and I've even gotten the go ahead at home to buy a system.

I am pleased that there are many remaining events to enjoy.

Looking forward to the next events and also to Parade in the Poconos.



All the best,

Jim



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



IN REVIEW>> WEDNESDAY NIGHT CRUISE-IN

BY: RICK RILEY

The Gilmore Dinner Drive was a great success in more ways than one! **It was 79 degrees and sunny, perfect and it was reported that there were over 700 cars on the grounds that evening! Wow! That's a new record!** We had 20ish Porsches, most lined up in front of the Franklin and Ford Model A buildings. It was a nice display and many of the regular Cruise Night attendees enjoyed as well as our members. With good friends, cars of all shapes and

sizes, live music, brats and beer, what's not to like! If you haven't been to a Gilmore Cruise-In, they happen every Wednesday evening, weather permitting, starting at 5:00pm through September. Also, if you haven't attended a WMR dinner drive, they are very easy laid back events. Hope to see you at either soon!

See you.....Down the road!



IN REVIEW>>

POOL & PATIO PICNIC

BY: GABI BLACKLIDGE

Do raindrops count when you are already wet from the pool? Nope! The showers that raced through Rockford on July 24th did not rain on our picnic for long. Intermittent sunshine added to the friendly atmosphere while we caught up from a year-long drought of personal conversations. Sanitary procedures were applied to help maintain safety. Chris and Craig Ackerman opened their beautiful pool deck and back yard entertainment area and, helped by Ted and Gabi Blacklidge, supplied a casual BBQ supper. A little bit of rain did not dampen the day or the enthusiasm to reconnect with friends, new and old.

Here is the proof:

Pics by: Chuck Olenyk



GILMORE RED BARN'S SPECTACULAR PORSCHE ONLY CAR CORRAL AND HOSPITALITY TENT

HOSTS: J. ARENS & AMBER DOOR

After the 2020 COVID hiatus, Western Michigan Region Porsche Club will again be joining other car enthusiasts for the 41st annual Red Barn Spectacular. It is West Michigan's "Grand Daddy" of antique, classic and special interest car show. In addition to cars the event will have special displays of antique boats and campers. The event will still include a swap meet, food booths, judge's Concours and people's choice Concours.

The WMR Porsche Club will have a Porsche only car corral with a Welcome/Hospitality tent located within the car show at a yet to be determined site. Please plan to arrive as early as possible if you plan to park in the car corral. You must arrive before 11am for entrance to the corral. You may also enter your 1996 and older Porsche in the People's choice category. Awards will be given to the top 25 cars.

New this year is - Driver's Choice Class. Cars modified for dual purpose of daily driving and competition events up to model year 2021 are eligible! Register here.

Museum entry fees are as follows:

20.00 for Corral Cars, incl. admission for car & 2 people
16.00/person for general admission; 11.00 for age 11-17; 10 & under are free.

Pack a lunch or purchase food at the Blue Moon Diner.

Gates open at 7:00am

** Important - If you are in a car newer than 1996 - You may still enter the gate with the other event cars, but you must tell them that you are with the Club for entrance. The workers will initially waive you to the next gate. Don't go past them!**

Porsche's should enter through the **WEST ENTRANCE**.

All others will be directed to the east entrance for general admission parking.

Questions?

Amber Door 616-340-0971

Amdoor242@aol.com

When: Saturday August 7, 2021 9:00 - 4:00

Where: 6865 Hickory Road, Hickory Corners, MI 49060

CALEB'S OPEN HOUSE / SHOP

HOST: CALEB KIEBERT

I would like to invite all to my house for an open house of my newly completed shop and showroom. There will be plenty of food, yard games, and also a formal introduction to my next restoration project, a water-cooled 914-6.

Parking will be concourse style in the front yard. The house is situated along one of the busiest walking paths in portage so there will be plenty of people walking by to show off our cars to. Please excuse the landscaping projects as the property is currently under renovation.

Where: 8716 S Westnedge Ave Portage MI, 49002

When: September 18th, 3:00pm

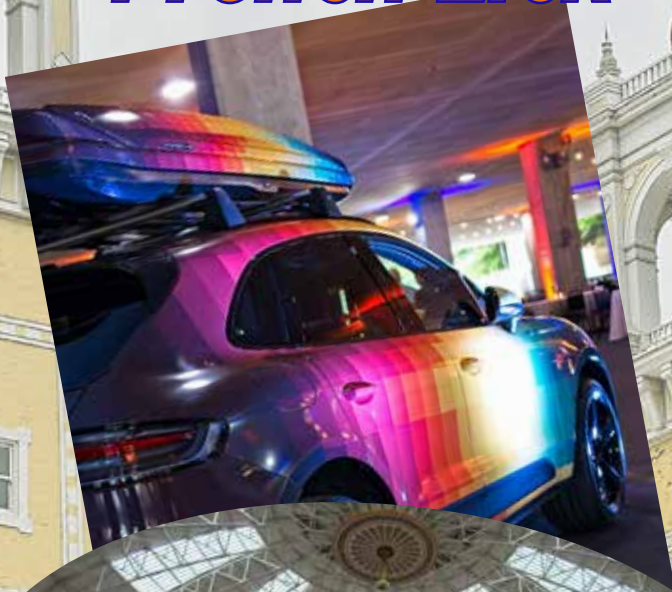
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Parade French Lick

See more Parade Pics
online and on Facebook



2021 EVENT CALENDAR

WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
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.			
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 Blackledge
	09-13	Monthly Board Meeting	Online (Zoom)	WMR PCA
	09-18	Garage Crawl Caleb's Gathering	Caleb's Shop / Open House	C. 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



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/)

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

For the full PCA Club Racing Schedule, visit:
<https://www.pcaclubracing.org>

BY: DICK RANVILLE AND CHUCK OLENYK

The following is a segment of a Masters Degree thesis written by Dick Ranville, a Detroit area SCCA member and Waterford Hills race track "flagger" a few years back. I've added a few more local memories and newspaper articles to update his story.



Edward Jack "E. J." Faasen was born on March 18, 1928. He quit high school, joined the Navy and served a year in China before returning to West Michigan, where he earned his high school diploma from Ottawa Hills in 1948. Faasen captained the football team and played shortstop on the

baseball team. He learned masonry eventually becoming partner in his own construction business, the Graves & Faasen Construction Co. E.J. also created an acrobatic team, Faasen & DeYoung, which performed at local carnivals. He was a thrower on the team. In fact, he could still do fingertip push-ups into his late 60s. E.J. did a lot of commercial work in Michigan and in Florida, where he built housing on Patrick Air Force Base near Cape Canaveral. He made many acquaintances in business and became something of a notable sportsman himself. E.J. built several bowling alleys in the Grand Rapids area, got hooked by the sport and became Grand Rapids City champion in 1960. Numerous newspaper appearances record this early sporting career with references such as "for stocky little bowlers, Faasen's big counts were repeat trips into the 700 circle." And the "builder of bowling alleys battered the pins for 246, 238 and 233 in the Wenger Major League. Faasen, 32 year old father of six, whose firm sponsors two teams in three leagues, competes in six leagues each week".

Builds Alleys Uses 'em, Too



E.J. Faasen did not set out to be in the racing business. Eugene Christenson was a used car salesman and a partner with E. J. in some business projects. Christenson was interested in sports car racing and once took Faasen to the sports car races at the Air National Guard airfield in Grayling, Michigan. Bill Tuttle, another mutual friend

and early WMR/PCA member, owned a property, a tree and flower farm known as the Lessiter Farm on what later became known as Lessiter Road in Grattan Township. A group of sports car people urged the construction of a racetrack on the property and agreed to contribute funds. Tuttle would contribute the property. When the time came to ante up, Faasen had cash and construction experience and Tuttle had the property. The others had only their enthusiasm so Faasen and Tuttle became partners. The track opened as a business in 1962. An article from the Grand Rapids Press dated May 13, 1962 reports that "International Acres Raceway" in Grattan Township was nearly complete with a three thousand foot drag strip. The article notes that a road course was either in place or contemplated and the hope was to have the road course paved by July of that year. The May 1962 article said the facility occupied one hundred and forty acres and that E.J. Faasen was President and Bill Tuttle, Vice President. E.J. Faasen is quoted as saying there was an option to purchase eighty acres adjacent to the site. Faasen says he and his wife mortgaged their house to get the money to pave the drag strip. At some point early in the business years Faasen bought out the interest of Tuttle and became sole owner. Faasen has said that having money in the project, he had to take an ever greater role to just to preserve his investment. It became a life- long occupation and the center of family life. E.J. and Mary Faasen had nine children, which was at not unusual for families in the nineteen fifties. All of the children worked at the track at some time. Faasen's mother worked in the concession stand in the early days of the track and grandchildren have worked there in recent years. Mary worked in the concession stand in the early days and in later years became the business's bookkeeper. E.J. remembers son Kurt at twelve years old being the announcer for the drag races. Thus the family ran the drag strip on Saturday and did maintenance the rest of the week. They published a newsletter with an old hand cranked mimeograph machine. To make ends meet E. J. worked part time jobs, teaching architectural drafting at a local trade school.

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TIME TRIALS 9 A. M. STARTING TIME 2 P. M.

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Continued on page 12



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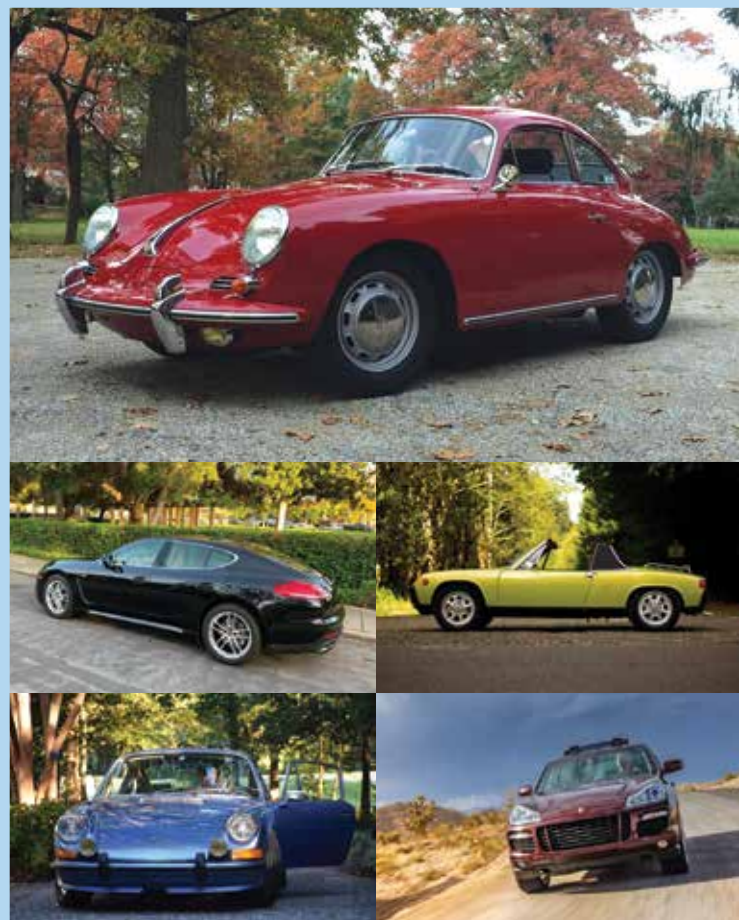
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For more information contact Howard Gilson
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A LOOK BACK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

BY: DICK RANVILLE AND CHUCK OLENYK

Drag racing was still being conducted at Grattan as late as 1973, but probably not long after that. Drag racing outgrew Grattan. The cars became so fast that the track did not have a long enough "run off" area where the cars could slow down and they had no room to expand it. E.J. says the National Hot Rod Association, the professional sanctioning body of the sport, decided not to come back after a car was unable to stop, ran off the property and ended up in a corn field across Lessiter Road.



E. J. Faasen

Almost from the beginning E.J. was expanding the business horizons of the Raceway. The track has been rented to professional driving schools and police departments began using the track as early as 1978 for high performance drivers training and still do. The

straight away was used as a runway by a skydiving club until the plane crashed just off the Faasen property, tragically killing all on board. The track has been used for bicycle racing and has been rented to professional racing teams practicing for events as varied as the Detroit Grand Prix and the Indianapolis 500. In the late 1960's, as the new sport of snowmobiling was beginning, E.J. proposed a snowmobile park to capitalize on the track's setting and produce some extra income. He was primarily a racing promoter, but

sports writer Alex Laggis characterized him as "...a man who would rather switch than starve..." But road racing, in various forms, quickly became the mainstay.

How Grattan Raceway became a road course, next month!

MORE PARADE PICS by: WB



A tribute to the Boxster



Hotel Display by Porsche



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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:

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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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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.

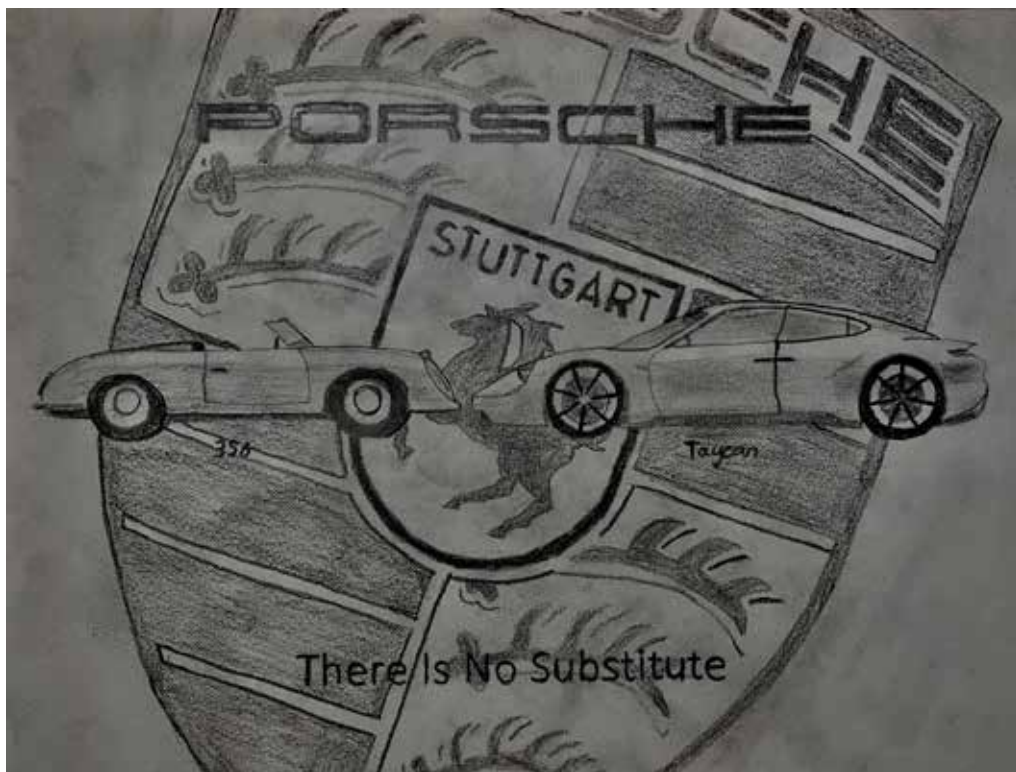
Editor reserves right to edit ads.

PAYMENT:

Please make checks payable to: WMR PCA

MEMBER ART

BY CALEB KIEBERT



The inspiration for the drawing came from an event in which I saw a Taycan parked next to a 356. Looking at the two cars I couldn't help but think to myself "there never has been and never will be a substitute" for the cars and for the people!

It's a monochromatic drawing done with charcoal.

Editor:

Caleb won 1st place in the class for monochromatic drawings at Parade in French Lick.

Congratulations

WB

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

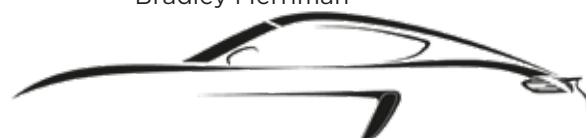
Aaron Coleman, Traverse City, '03 911
 Bradford Harrison, Interlochen, '87 944
 Jason Machnik, Kalamazoo, '97 Boxster

Transfer In

Randal Ewers, Kewadin
 Stephen Phelps, Coloma
 Richard Winter, Ludington

Glückwünsche! — Anniversaries

15 years (2006) Kurt & Mary Ellen Kettelhut
10 years (2011) James Brown & Andrea Boot
 Jeffrey Krisel & Sharon Depcinski
1 year (2020) Ted Alberta
 William Bonning
 Steve Crum
 Jerry Kolk
 Bradley Merriman



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