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PORSCHE



Upcoming EVENTS

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

Keep an eye out on your email or the WMR PCA website for more info

WMR PCA

November 2022

NOVEMBER DINNER EVENT

Finn's Chop House and Speakeasy

Randy & Linda Portoluri

Saturday November 12, 2022

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ON THE COVER

Don Sjolín having fun in his 1974 911
Photo by
Jeff Simonis, Watermark Photography

THE ENGINE OF THE CLUB

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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/)

WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION ACTIVE MEMBERS · BUILDING THE CLUB

Total: 694

Primary Members: 440

Co-Members: 254

Honorary/Lifetime: 0

PCA Juniors: 36

GLÜCKWÜNSCHE! — ANNIVERSARIES

Join me in congratulating these fine folks on their WMR PCA Anniversaries.

15 years (2007) Robert & Colleen Benjamin

5 years (2017) Michelle Mullins

1 year (2021) David Bates
Thomas Ervin
Mike Fisher
Amy Fox
Michael & Alex Kaminski
Marilyn Masters
Jeffrey & Louise Wing
Yoshiro Yamamoto

WILLKOMMEN! — NEW MEMBERS & TRANSFERS

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

Nick DeFoe, Grand Rapids, '14 Cayman
Edward & Ashlye Karaus, Fennville, '00 Boxster
James Morrison, East Grand Rapids, '22 Cayman GT4



FALL IS A TIME FOR DRIVING

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

There are few things in life more enjoyable than driving a Porsche in Michigan in the fall - the vibrant colors that come with the season, the crisp air as you drive with the top down in your cabriolet (My temp for the top up is less than 45 degrees, but Raeni and I disagree on that number at times), the taste of newly picked apples, and the mood of Autumn make this a favorite season for many. And to augment that joy, Dan and Ren Phillips are hosting a drive on Saturday, October 8 recreating one of the tours from the 2013 Parade held in Traverse City. We begin our tour just northeast of the city and end in Boyne City. I expect it will embody all that is good of this season. Seriously, northern Michigan in the fall, in a Porsche, again, it doesn't get much better!

While not a PCA event, the Gilmore Car Museum, in conjunction with DeutscheMarques is hosting their second annual Octoberfest on October 15. There will be German food, beer, cars, and even a color tour for those who so desire. Two weeks in a row, I'm not certain I can maintain this level of exuberance!

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
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Ada, MI 49301

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check payable to:
WMR PCA.

At the time I am writing this section of the newsletter, the details have yet to be finalized for the 2023 Planning Meeting happening in November 2022. So, pay attention to your email for information. If you have an idea for a drive, social gathering, or some other creative way for us to gather as a club, this is where the organizing begins.

Now that we've peeked forward, let's recap our recent past events. Since our last publication we had a large gathering of Porsches, with various other marques thrown in, at the Metro Cruise Kick-Off Hosted by Porsche of Grand Rapids on August 28th. It was as expected, a great time for food and conversation while watching the many different makes and models of cars pass by on 28th street (or pull through the dealership to see our cars!).

And of course, on September 10th and 11th was our marquee event of the year, the Grand Prix of Grattan. We

had 54 cars with drivers ranging from first time novices to seasoned experts. The weather on Saturday was perfect. Sunday morning was okay, but the afternoon brought showers and the need to close the track a bit early. We had a couple of instances where cars left the track for more than a casual drive through the grass. As with many things in life, a little bit of peril adds vibrancy. Ultimately of course the reason we drive the track is to learn more about our cars and to improve ourselves as drivers. Thanks to Greg Currie as HPDE chair, Jeff Kolk as our chief driving instructor, Amber Door as registrar and all-around servant to the cause, and the many volunteers that make this weekend a success.

Sadly, as is becoming all too familiar, we lost yet another member of the club. Val Axelrod passed on September 4. Arnie and Val have been Region members since April 1988. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Arnie in this time.

On a final note, regarding all things Porsche, as of now we won't be seeing our favorite marque on the F1 grid next year. Despite what seemed like a certainty, the marriage between Porsche and Red Bull never quite made it to the altar. As with many failed marriages, the blame has been placed on too big egos on both sides. The rumors have already started with Porsche seeking a new suiter, but for now, their return next year to IMSA and WEC will have to suffice.



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IN REVIEW - GRATTAN HPDE 2022

BY GREG CURRIE

A varied assortment of cars warmed up the track at this year's Grattan HPDE. Six new student drivers joined the group led by Chief Driving instructor Jeff Kolk and Ken Haverkete, Chris Thorpe, David Daiek, John Kaczmarczyk, Rick Groggel, Wolfgang Bubeck, Lynn Kase, Doug Tepper and Greg Koning.

Saturday's weather was exceptionally perfect - not so much on Sunday, when rain dampened the track (but not the spirit).

Both days, during the lunch hours, we continued our tradition of "giving back to the community" by collecting for our charity "Family Promise". Anyone can donate in exchange for an hour's open track time with their car - and those who want to enjoy that ride with them. It is always great to see visitors experience Grattan for themselves (and what an awesome time to share this with kids.)



Following the close of Saturday's track schedule - drivers and friends enjoyed lively conversation, pizza, beer (caps off to Don & Amy Sjolín - Euro Autowerks), wine (corks popping for Rick Riley) and soda (& weekend snacks: Danke! Jerry & Amber).



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Being the chair of this event for the first time, I again thank Ted Blackledge for his prior service - and great notes!

Other shout-outs go to:

Porsche Grand Rapids (Great shirts)

Bostwick Bakery (Sunday's Donuts)

Jeff Simonis (Photos) - See Page [7](#) for some of the awesome Porsche action shots or go to [Watermark Photography](#) to see (and purchase) all the photos

And... We are "Fueled By Volunteers"

Eric Spross Tyan Roelands

Rick Riley Craig Paul

Amber Door Colin Carpenter

Karlene Currie Miluzka Bubeck

Michael Betz Jerry Arens

Frank Conner

Mark your calendars:

Save the Date for next year's opportunity to learn to safely drive your car in challenging conditions:

Saturday & Sunday September 9 & 10, 2023 *

*1st weekend after Labor Day

See you there! Greg





SnapSHOTS

Photos Courtesy of
JEFF SIMONIS
Watermark Photography



2022 EVENT CALENDAR



PORSCHE

WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION · PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

	Date	Event	Location	Host(s)/Event Chair(s)
OCT	10-03	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche of Grand Rapids	WMR Board
	10-08	Fall Color Tour	Cafe Santé & Lake St. Pub Boyne City, MI	Dan & Ren Phillips
	10-15	3rd Annual Porsche Boardwalk Reunion	Ocean City, NJ	Zone 1 / 2
	10-15	Deutsche Marques Oktoberfest	Gilmore Car Museum	Non PCA Event
NOV	11-07	Membership / Planning Meeting	TBD	WMR Board
	11-12	Dinner Event	Finn's Chophouse & Speakeasy Spring Lake, MI	Randy & Lynn Portoluri
DEC	12-05	Monthly Board Meeting	Porsche of Grand Rapids	WMR Board



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



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2022 FALL COLOR TOUR

BY DAN & REN PHILLIPS

Get ready for some Parade nostalgia as we embark on this year's Fall Color Tour! Hosted by Dan and Ren Phillips, this year's drive takes us through the inland lakes northeast of Traverse City, reminiscent of the Inland Lakes Tour from Porsche Parade 2013. We'll depart from the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa in Acme, touring for about an hour and a half on the colorful roads wrapping around Elk Lake, Torch Lake, and Lake Charlevoix.

Due to the extreme popularity of the event, a second lunch destination has been added!

We'll arrive in Boyne City and have the option of lunching at Cafe Santé or Lake Street Pub. Both locations have excellent offerings and are situated on the southern shore of Lake Charlevoix. We'll even have VIP parking right next to the restaurants.

Please RSVP no later than 8:00 pm on Wednesday, October 5th to Dan Phillips at dphil66@hotmail.com or (616) 900-8828.

Food & Lodging Info:

You can reserve rooms at the Grand Traverse Resort by visiting: <http://www.grandtraverseresort.com>

Information for Cafe Santé can be found at <http://www.magnumhospitality.com/cafesante>

Information for Lake Street Pub can be found at <https://www.lakestreetpuboyne.com/>

Where: Grand Traverse Resort & Spa, Acme, MI

When: Saturday, October 8th, 2022 · 11:00 am



A casual, European-style bistro serving "The Classics" simply and with flair. Featuring Belgian beers, wood-fired pizzas, mussels and frites, pastas, Panini, unique breakfasts and casual cuisine from other fine European traditions.



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Have you signed up for PCA Juniors?

The PCA Juniors program is here for kids to enjoy PCA events, learn about Porsches, and continue the passion that runs throughout the Porsche Club of America. As a PCA member, you may sign up your child, grandchild, niece, or nephew under the age of 18. It's free to join! Your PCA Junior will receive a welcome box with an ID name badge in the mail. Many region events include activities for children and teens geared to grow enthusiasm for Porsche and PCA for generations to come.

SIGN UP HERE. IT'S FREE! <https://www.pca.org/pca-juniors>

Download and enjoy custom coloring sheets created by coloring book illustrator Fireball Tim.

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**PORSCHE CLUB
OF AMERICA**



A LOOK BACK - THE EARL OF WMR

BY CHUCK OLENYK



I could write an entire article about just how this very debonair fellow from the 1950's is attired. From his beret, Ray Ban eyeglass frames, ascot scarf, cardigan sweater, pocket watch with chain, cuffed trousers, and could those possibly be vintage "Hush Puppies"! And, of course, enjoying a cigarette while his loving wife refills his Chardonnay. And, yes, that is a PCA pin on her lapel!

This is Earl Kirschbaum and his wife Mary photographed by John Alexander in 1957. At the time Earl and Mary lived in Alma, Michigan and were visiting their friends, John and his wife Ruth at their cottage on Lake Mecosta. The cool red 1955 Cabriolet of Earl's apparently made quite the impression on John. Along with the Kirschbaum's, the Alexander's attended the very first "Treffen" to Germany in 1958 to pick up their own Porsche! More about that first Treffen in the upcoming months, and many thanks to John's grandson, Ed Salo for sharing these photos and so much more.

Current national PCA historian, Linda Goodman, sent us this article about Earl from a 1959 Panorama:

"Born 1906—Detroit, Michigan. The fascination of the gas buggies was deeply instilled in Earl Kirschbaum at an early age. His desire and dream to own his own car came true with the purchase of a Model T, which promptly was "souped up."

After several years of burning up gas and tires, Earl turned to the serious side of life and enrolled in the School of Dentistry at the University of Michigan. In 1933, after graduation, he married the one and only Mary. Due to outdoor interest and the desire to raise their three boys close to nature and in a small town, the family located in Alma, Michigan.

The early passion for unique cars, which lay dormant while bringing up the family, was revived by the purchase of a 1500 Porsche Convertible in 1955. Several months later Earl became a charter member of PCA and attended the first Parade. From here on in, it was Porsches and PCA.

His love for the feel of the wheel and the drifting of corners again came into being having attended a drivers' school to secure a competition license in 1958—running a few minor races, then laying up the helmet with the realization that age was becoming a factor.

He is now "Porschering" in his third Convertible, having driven over seventy-five thousand miles since 1956, traveling through most of the states, Mexico and on the continent with the first PCA Tour.

Earl was appointed the Regional Director of Michigan at the first Parade and helped to organize the present Southeastern Michigan Region. He was later elected First Vice President of the National Organization and then to his present post as President of PCA.

Porsches and PCA have become a way of life for the Earl Kirschbaums. All of PCA land salute you."

Earl and Mary were at the very first meeting of what was to become the West Michigan Region at the Greenridge Country Club in Grand Rapids in 1960. As President of PCA at the time, the "Charter to PCA, Western Michigan Region" is signed by Earl Kirschbaum.



Ruth Alexander and Mary Kirschbaum at Lake Mecosta

SEVEN RANDOM TIPS YOU CAN USE ON ANY CAR – INCLUDING YOUR PORSCHE

BY PCA TECH TIPS (ADAPTED FROM WWW.PCA.ORG)

Here's a collection of seven, random tech tips, whether you're a Porsche owner or not.

1. When jumpstarting a car equipped with AutoStart, remember to disable that feature after you've started the vehicle. Otherwise, the first traffic light you encounter with a red light, will cause the vehicle to shut off and odds are that the battery is not fully charged to restart the engine again.

2. When checking your brake pads, remember to check the inside and outer pads. While they normally wear evenly, sometimes they do not. It's better to find out earlier that you may need a new caliper rather than destroying a brake disc and caliper at the same time.



3. If you've just purchased your first vintage air-cooled 911, you will check the oil only once the car has reached operating temperature. Air-cooled 911s use a dry sump oil lubrication which means they have a separate oil tank. On a cold engine, simply checking the dipstick will show that car is very low on oil when in reality it is not. This leads to people unnecessarily adding oil and then possibly damaging the engine.



4. Only check your car's tire pressures when the tires are cold. This usually means early in the morning or after the sun has set. A tire that's facing the sun will show higher pressures than the other side of the car whose tires are in the shade. Never check them after a drive unless you are specifically looking to check "hot" pressures (such as for the track or autocross).



5. Don't forget to maintain your car's weatherstripping. A silicone-based conditioner will keep the seals pliable, clean, and healthy looking. If you live in an area where it freezes during winter months, the conditioner will also prevent the door from freezing shut. Try and condition it every six months.

6. When inspecting your tires, get down on your knees and check the inside rear tire tread. Many times people will look at the visible outside tread and not realize that most of the wear on rear Porsche tires are on the inside. Checking the inside front is easier as all you have to do is move the steering all the way to one side.



7. If you get a small chip or star crack on your windshield, go to a windshield repair shop and see if they can fix it. Sometimes, it's covered under insurance. If you let it go for a while, it will start to crack further and necessitate a replacement windshield. As we learned in a previous Tech Tactics Live, getting your insurance company to use an authentic, factory replacement windshield is not always guaranteed. Check out this [video](#) to learn more about replacing windshields.



Imagine you and your flapper wife or girlfriend going down a dark alley and you come to an unassuming door to a lower level. You knock on the door and a man who looks like James Cagney open a little window and asks for the password to which you reply Porsche Club. He lets you in and you hear the jazz band playing the latest fox trot. Across the room you see Jay Gatsby and Daisy have saved you two seats at their table. Jay says you need to try this whiskey. Captain Dan Seavey just delivered it off Lake Michigan from Canada. You get the impression...

Join us at Finn's Chop House and Speakeasy in beautifully renovated downtown Spring Lake.



They are well known for their steaks and cocktails. Plenty of parking for your Packard or maybe even your Porsche (if the weather holds!) on the street or behind.

RVSP by November 9 to Randy at 616-502-8959 or rportoluri66@charter.net

Where: Finn's Chop House and Speakeasy
110 West Savidge Street, STE 100
Spring Lake, MI 49456

When: Saturday, November 12, 2022 · 5:00pm

On a personal note, I lived in the building that was torn down for the restaurant as a child from 1955-60 and watched a steam locomotive from the window.

MOTORSPORTS MUSINGS

BY PCA.ORG

If you're following the Porsche Formula 1 rumors over the last year, you're likely up-to-date that both Porsche and Red Bull have publicly announced that there will be no F1 partnership of the two brands. Although it saddens me to read the news, I'm not a huge Red Bull fan. I do believe the two would have been a superteam and would have competed quite well against the likes of Mercedes and Ferrari for many F1 titles for years to come. And I would really like to see Porsche back in Formula 1. But alas, irreconcilable differences broke up these possibilities. With a looming October 15 Formula 1 deadline to announce F1 engine manufacturer status, Porsche is up against the clock. Porsche has commented, "With the finalized rule changes, the racing series nevertheless remains an attractive environment for Porsche, which will continue to be monitored." So maybe there is still a chance? How could that come about? I really doubt that the F1 teams would allow another entry, whether it's Porsche directly or a Porsche/Andretti matchup that has been mentioned recently. The other F1 teams are too greedy to give up a possible percentage of the prize money. The only option I see as a possibility is with McLaren. Probably a long-shot, but I'd love to see Porsche and McLaren join forces again and again beat Ferrari like the pair did in mid-1980s. The combo won three World Championships and 25 Grand Prix victories between 1983 and 1987. Could this winning duo be brought back starting in 2026? Andreas Seidl, McLaren's F1 team principal ran the 919 squad during Porsche's three WEC championship victories. So, maybe a Porsche/McLaren matchup could be in private discussions right now. I sure hope so.



Photo Courtesy of Porsche

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Note: Members must contact editor to renew after 2 month. Editor reserves right to edit ads.

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Grattan Sunset 2018 - Photo by Wolfgang Bubeck

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