



October 2021

# BACKFIRE

A publication for, and by,  
the members of the Western Michigan Region Sports Car Club of America



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# Happy Halloween



TRICK OR TREAT



## 2021 WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION OFFICIALS

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### **Treasurer, Timing & Scoring and Webmaster**

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### **Director (Past RE) and Course Control**

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### **Rally Cross Chair**

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## Membership News

WMR welcomes our new or returning members

- James Doane - Caledonia, MI
- Christopher Feldott - Byron Center, MI
- Aaron Hulings - Cedar Springs, MI
- Bradley Hulings - Rockford, MI
- Scott Kennedy - Marshall, MI
- Ryan Miller - Grand Haven, MI
- Shane Parks - Canton, MI
- Joshua Sampson - Muskegon, MI
- Ian Wenzel - Ludington, MI
- Scott Wesley - Lansing, MI

Congratulations to the following who celebrated membership anniversaries last month

- 50 years Edward Lublow
- 47 years Bruce Harrington
- 45 years Bruce Kalin
- 34 years Craig Weidner
- 34 years Bruce Beauvais
- 34 years Susan Beauvais
- 25 years Lance Loughman
- 24 years Michael Fellmer
- 11 years Jeff Secor
- 11 years Ken Vander Vlist
- 8 years David Savage
- 8 years Peter Savage
- 8 years Liesa Savage
- 8 years Holly Savage
- 8 years Rachel Start
- 8 years Eric Cronick
- 7 years Anson Liu
- 6 years Vicki Henry
- 5 years Rick Sheeran
- 4 years David Walters
- 3 years John Busch
- 3 years Marsella White
- 2 years Timothy Green
- 1 year Angelic Hathaway
- 1 year Chris Hoyt
- 1 year Scott Albers
- 1 year Curt VanDuren
- 1 year Mark Howell

# If Pavlov had experimented with humans, he would have used this.



A given stimulus produces a given response.

Of course, certain stimuli will produce more extraordinary responses than others. Such as a Porsche 911 Turbo Cabriolet.

What we've done, quite simply, is uncover one of the world's most exciting cars. The car that *Car and Driver* tested

from 0 to 60 in 4.6 seconds, and in 13.1 seconds for the quarter mile. Figures that seem even more impressive with the wind in your hair.

We invite you to test your own responses by coming in for a test-drive.

All we ask is that you try to avoid drooling on the leather.



## AUDI'S INNOVATIVE SAFETY FEATURES DO MORE THAN BUILD A BETTER CAR, THEY BUILD CONFIDENCE.



Having examined all of Audi's safety features, you'd probably find it challenging trying to determine which one inspires the most confidence.

Would the distinction fall on our Automatic Front Seatbelt Tensioning System or driver's side air bag?

Does it belong to the hands-free, voice-activated cellular telephone that lets you keep your eyes on the road and your hands on the wheel?

How about all-wheel Quattro® drive? Logically speaking, everything points

to the Anti-Lock Brakes: An electro-mechanical system so sophisticated it can modulate pressure up to 15 times a second, react instantaneously to the steepness of a hill or the "g" forces of a turn.

Ironically, we would assert that it is none of the above.

The most confidence-building feature in an Audi is none other



TAKE CONTROL

than control. Granted, control can't be touched, activated or, for that matter, seen.

It can't be turned on or off with the flick of a switch.

But make no mistake about it. From the moment you place your key in the ignition, it's there.

It's working.

And it's quite real. Moreover, were you to ask Audi drivers about control, chances are you'd hear the same thing.

It's the one safety feature they can't live without.



Audi 100

©1991 Audi of America

### Our General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting

--- At ---

## Pietro's Italian Restaurant

2780 Birchcrest Dr SE, Grand Rapids, MI



For the "off season" September thru April, we typically meet the 2nd Saturday of the month with an optional dinner at 6:00pm followed by the meeting at 7:00pm.



**Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting at Pietro's has been cancelled**

In it's place, we invite you to participate in our Zoom Teleconference on **Thursday, October 14, at 7 pm via Zoom.**

**To Join the Meeting**

On your computer click on this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4596564413>

Via telephone call: **1 646 558 8656**  
or  
**1 312 626 6799**

Enter the Meeting ID: **459 656 4413**

### Region Calendar

#### October 14, 2021

The (in-person ) General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting has been cancelled. **We invite you to a Zoom Teleconference via telephone in its place.**

#### November \_\_ , 2021

General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting at TBD

#### December \_\_ , 2021

General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting at TBD

#### January \_\_ , 2022

**The Annual Meeting of our members** at TBD

### Contributors

**JIM WASHBURN**  
Backfire Editor

**MARY ELLEN SICKLES**  
Secretary

**Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the following events may be Rescheduled or Cancelled.**

### 2021 GREAT LAKES DIVISION SOLO SERIES SCHEDULE

- June 19 - 20      Indy Region - Grissom Aeroplex,  
Peru, IN
- June 26 - 27      South West Virginia Region -  
U of WV, Parkersberg, WV
- July 17 - 18      Fort Wayne Region - Allen County  
War Memorial Coliseum, Fort  
Wayne, IN
- Sep 18 - 19      Cincinnati Region - Traders World,  
Cincinnati, OH

For more information and  
to Register for a specific event go to  
<https://www.gldscca.com/solo-series>

\* \* \* \*

### 2021 WMR SOLO SCHEDULE

- September 6      WMR Labor Day Event at Grattan  
Raceway Park, Grattan, MI
- **October 24      WMR Event #2 at Grattan  
Raceway Park, Grattan, MI**

Contact **Dan Moody** at  
[dmoody268@gmail.com](mailto:dmoody268@gmail.com)  
for more information.

To Register for a specific event go to  
[www.motorsportreg.com](http://www.motorsportreg.com)

### 2021 GREAT LAKES DIVISION CLUB RACING SCHEDULE

- April 10      GLDiv/WHRRRI Driver's School  
( classroom ) at Waterford Hills
- April 24 - 25      GLDiv/WHRRRI Driver's School  
( track time ) at Waterford Hills
- April 29 - 30      VSCDA Drivers School (classroom and  
track time) at Gingerman
- May 1 - 2      VSCDA "Gingerman Spring  
Brake Races at Gingerman
- May 14 - 16      DET / SBR "Spring Festival of Speed"  
Double Regional at Gingerman
- May 21 - 23      OVR "Race of Champions" Majors  
Double Event at Mid-Ohio
- June 12 - 13      NEO Restricted Regional at Nelson  
Ledges
- June 19 - 20      WMR "Unrestricted" Double Regional  
at Grattan
- June 24 - 27      SVRA Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-  
Ohio at Mid-Ohio
- July 9 - 11      NEO Double Regional at Nelson  
Ledges
- July 23      SBR CRE-Enduro-Track Event at  
Gingerman
- July 24 - 25      SBR / DET "Bert Olson" Majors  
Double Event at GingerMan
- July 30 - Aug 1      Cincinnati Region Double Regional at  
Mid-Ohio
- August 13 - 15      VSCDA "Vintage Grand Prix Au  
Grattan XXX" at Grattan
- August 21 - 22      WMR "Last Chance" Majors at  
Grattan
- September 3 - 5      OVR "Sprint Classic" Double  
Regional at Mid-Ohio
- **Sept 25 - Oct 3      2021 SCCA National Runoffs at  
Indianapolis**
- **October 15 - 17      OVR "Autumn Classic" Double  
Regional at Mid-Ohio**

For more information go to  
<https://www.gldscca.com/road-racing>  
To Register for a specific event go to  
[www.motorsportreg.com](http://www.motorsportreg.com)



Western Michigan Region, SCCA



Sunday, October 24, 2020

Grattan Raceway is a 2.0 mile long winding, hilly road course with 10 very challenging corners. Uphill, downhill ascending and descending radius turns, Monza bowl, esses, a hidden apex hairpin, and a downhill reverse camber corner, makes for a very FUN course.



# September Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2021, 7:19 pm  
Pietro's Italian Restaurant, Grand Rapids, MI

Board Members present: Lenny Basaj, Ed Maklenburg, Dave Ferris, Karen Crider, and Mary Ellen Sickles

Board Members absent: Wayne Rogers and Jim Washburn

Other Members Present: Rodney Sickles, Bruce Beauvais, Suzie Beauvais, Dayle Frame, Dan Moody, Angela Moody, Dustin Moody, Barb Steencken and Sam Rogers.

## Secretary Report:

Mary Ellen Sickles: - No Report

## Regional Executive's Report:

Lenny Basaj: Welcome to everyone

## Treasurer's Report:

Dave Ferris: Everything is balanced in the checkbook. Our financial situation is strong for continuing ongoing operations. Our checking balance as presented in this month's treasurer's report is reconciled and equal to our most recent bank statement. A copy of our monthly treasurer's report is available to our members upon written request. Mary Ellen Sickles made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Karen Crider and approved.

## Competition Director's Report:

Dayle Frame: Dayle is resigning from this position, as Area 4 Director, it is too much to do.

We need to get our dates to the SCCA GLDiv scheduler.

The runoffs in 2022 are at VIR.

Dayle's recommendation is to have Club Racing, Solo & Rally directors and make them voting members of the Board. We may need to change our bylaws to do this.

## Solo Manager's Report:

Dan Moody: The Solo on Labor Day, September 6, went well, with no damage to report. There were 84 entries with 7 runs each. The wristbands worked well at this event.

Sunday October 24th is the next event.

## Newsletter Report:

Jim Washburn: The newsletter deadline for submissions is September 24, 2021

## Area 4 Director Report:

Dayle Frame: SCCA is having a problem with the aging out of RE's DA's and Chiefs. Our Division has been hit especially hard. We need new people for the path of succession. We may need to pool resources with SBR. We also need more stewards.

## Membership Chair Report:

Tom Smolenski: (not present) Dave Ferris gave him envelopes and stamps.

## Chief of Specialty Reports:

### F&C - Flagging:

Pete Hansen: (not present) Via email he has no report.

### F&C - Communications:

Lydia Hansen: (not present) Via email he has no report.

### Radios:

Bruce Beauvais: He purchased the new cable for the communicator. WMR has 6 radios, generally we use 4 of them so we are in good shape.

### Start:

Bruce Beauvais: No Report

### Grid:

Mary Ellen Sickles: No Report.

### Timing & Scoring:

Dave Ferris: We've got the new decoders, but will need to buy a case for them.

### Sound:

Carola Basaj: No Report.

# September Meeting Minutes

— Continued —

**Course:**

Wayne Rogers: (not present)

**Tech:**

Ed Maklenburg: Tech issued lots of new log books. There were less annual inspections done at the track. They want to do less annuals at the track and even do house calls. Encouraged everyone to do annual waivers online.

**Old Business:**

**Fire Suppression Equipment:** Tabled, as we are waiting for Topeka's rules.

**BoD Meeting Day:** After discussion, Dave Ferris made a motion to have October's meeting on the 2nd Thursday, October 14, at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Seconded by Mary Ellen Sickles and approved.

**New Business:**

**Enduro Program:** Lenny Basaj received an email from Topeka regarding an Endurance Racing Program, wondering if our region would be interested. There is possible interest but no commitment yet. We need to find out more information, duration of enduro, requirements, etc.

**Announcements:**

None.

**Adjournment:**

Karen Crider made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dave Ferris, approved at 8:43 pm

**E Mail Votes Between Meetings:**

On August 23, 2021 - Karen Crider made a motion to approve funds to get a cable (to attach headset to radio for race control for approximately \$225.00.). Wayne Rogers seconded and it was approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ellen Sickles,  
Recording Secretary





# Once Again ...It's Election Time For The WMR Board of Directors

Well folks, the 2021 racing season is behind us and we are ready to embark on the planning and budgeting stages of the 2022 season. It is also time that you think of how the club has been serving your needs and if there is anything that you might be able to suggest to make sure your needs are better met and/or, perhaps, dedicate a greater percentage of your time to the club in order to bring your ideas and thoughts forward. **It's election time again** and, while the current board has been very supportive and done an outstanding job, many of the board members have been serving for quite a while or have served repeatedly. We would love it if someone, or several of you, stepped forward to take on some of the board duties.

**Serving the club as an Officer/ Board Member is a very rewarding experience.** As a Board Member, you will have an active influence as to where we are going, what programs and activities will we support and engage in, and how will we do this. You will serve to help protect our assets and provide the proper financial oversight to ensure the club has adequate resources to advance our mission and to steer our organization towards a sustainable future. We are fortunate to have a great team at WMR with many years of experience to draw upon in your transition into one of these positions. It is a pleasure to work with fellow Board Members and Officers so dedicated and united in achieving a common goal and creating a positive outcome. **As with most organizations, we welcome fresh faces, with fresh ideas and energy, to fill some of these positions. Is it your time to step up?**

Originally we were set up to form a nominating committee at this time of year and select from those who have been participating, some who would seem like good candidates. The problem with that theory is that, by-and-large, the *"from those who have been participating"* have been the same old board members and chiefs of specialty who are showing up at meetings and volunteering to do the jobs that are required of club management and staging our events. **It would be nice to be supported by some "new blood"**. There are new and exciting opportunities coming to the Club Racing program in 2019 that would benefit from new fresh faces and ways of thinking. **We need more of our club members to help us in this effort.** Please join us in supporting your region.

Nominations are requested for the following elected positions on the Board:

- **Regional Executive**, currently Lenny Basaj
- **Assistant Regional Executive**, currently Ed Maklenburg
- **Secretary**, currently Mary Ellen Sickles
- **Treasurer**, currently Dave Ferris
- **Member-at-Large**, currently Karen Crider

***All nominees must be current active members of the Western Michigan Region of the SCCA.***

If you are willing, or know of someone that is willing, to step up and take on one of the elected duties, please submit your nominations to our Corporate Secretary, Mary Ellen Sickles at [Rmsickles@comcast.net](mailto:Rmsickles@comcast.net).

**Mary Ellen is requesting your nominations by 10/14/2021**

All nominations received prior to the cutoff date will be vetted by the current Board of Directors and added to a slate of candidates prior to sending them on to the members of our region in the form of an Election Ballot for a mail-in vote. If we are only able to slate one (1) nominee for each elective position and if no other nominations are received, then an election ballot submitted to the members is not required. The slate of officers presented will be held to have been elected. Likewise, if nominations are presented and sent to the members on a mail in Election Ballot, but no votes are received, the current Board of Directors will elect the officers for the upcoming year.

## Regarding the elected positions on the Board of Directors.

None of these positions require a rocket scientist... They will, however, require your dedication and some of your time.

First of all, we meet in the evening once a month (historically, the second Saturday of the month) from September to April. **Due to the COVID-19 pandemic however, we have been conducting our meetings via Zoom teleconferences.**

Post the COVID-19, we hope to once again meet in person. Tentatively, the meeting location for 2022 will be at **Pietro's Italian Restaurant**, 2780 Birchcrest Dr SE, Grand Rapids, MI. Dinner before the meeting is optional for you. The meeting will follow dinner and starts about 7:00pm. You will be expected to attend all if not a great percentage of these meetings. We know that there may be an occasion or two that you can not be at the meeting, but without your participation business is more difficult to conduct. In addition to the monthly meetings, pressing business may come up that we discuss and vote on issues via email. We try to keep this at a minimum, but it can happen.

**The Regional Executive (RE):** is roughly analogous to “president” of the region. The RE is responsible for creating the agenda and leading the monthly meetings. He or she is the primary contact person for the region and will have the authority to sign insurance documents as well as contracts (approved by the Board) with vendors of goods and services provided to the region. The RE will serve as a back up person to the Treasurer to sign checks and make deposits to the regions bank account. We have past RE's on the Board that will be available to provide guidance, as needed or requested, for the new RE. - Time requirements other, than the Board Meetings and attendance at a portion of our events, is about 2 to 3 hours per month.

**The Assistant RE:** would fill in for the RE at meetings in event of the RE's absence. He or she will also help with determining the meeting agenda and to assist the RE with other business tasks as assigned or requested. - Time requirements, other than the Board Meetings, is about 1 to 2 hours per month.

**The Secretary:** This position is responsible for recording the minutes of our Board meetings and providing them for approval by the other members of the Board via email. He or she makes the arrangements for club meetings and is responsible for various correspondence within and outside our region as requested by the RE or the Board of Directors. - Time requirements, other than the Board Meetings, is about 1 to 2 hours per month.

**The Treasurer:** This position is responsible for maintaining the checkbook, receiving and paying bills, publishing monthly treasurer's reports and providing relevant material to the tax preparer. As holder of the checkbook, the Treasure must be available at most of our events in order to pay our bills that the event generates. Some checks can, of course, be written days before or days after the event, but others must be written at the the event itself. **The treasurer must be fluent in Excel and be able to enter basic data into Quickbooks software.** We have a past Treasurer on the Board that will be available to provide guidance, as needed or requested, for the new Treasurer. - Time requirements, other than the Board Meetings and attendance at a portion of our events, is about 2 to 3 hours per month.

**The Member-at-Large:** This position is directly responsible for listening to the concerns of any member, presenting these concerns to the Board and standing as the member's advocate at Board meetings. - Time requirements, other than the Board Meetings, is about 0 to 1 hour per month.

## **Excerpt from our ByLaws approved by our membership in May of 2021 regarding the election of Officers for the Region.**

### V. Officers

#### A. Officers:

1. The officers of the Corporation shall be a Regional Executive, an Assistant Regional Executive, a Secretary, a Treasurer and three (3) Directors.
2. The Board of Directors may appoint or elect such other officers, including one or more Assistant Secretary(s) and one or more Assistant Treasurer(s), as it deems desirable. Such officers to have the authority and perform the duties prescribed by the Board of Directors. They shall not be entitled to a vote on the Board of Directors.

#### B. Election and Term of Office: The officers of the Corporation shall be elected annually by the membership in a general election.

1. The Board of Directors may appoint a Nominating Committee to review and select a slate of candidates for general election.
  - a. The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members in good standing of the Corporation, with one (1) member serving as Chairman.
  - b. The Nominating Committee must be selected on or before *April* fifteenth (15) of the calendar year.
  - c. The Nominating Committee shall attempt to slate at least two (2) nominees for each elective office.
  - d. A slate of proposed officers must be submitted to the Secretary on or before September first (1) of the calendar year. This slate must be signed by six (6) members in good standing of the Corporation.
2. Any member in good standing of the Corporation may nominate a candidate for elective office. Such nominations must be made in writing, signed by the member making the nomination and delivered to the Secretary of the Corporation, not later than October 1 of the calendar year to be included on the ballot.
3. The Secretary shall prepare a ballot to be mailed by October 15 to the members of the Corporation in good standing as of October 1 of the calendar year. The voting may be by e-mail and all ballots must be received by the designated election official before November 1 of the calendar year. The ballot must be legibly signed by the member voting to be considered valid. The Secretary or designee will devise and use a ballot form which will be satisfactory to a majority of the Board of Directors. If the Nominating Committee is only able to slate one (1) nominee for each elective position and if no other nominations are received from the members in good standing, then a ballot submitted to the members is not required. The slate of officers as presented by the nominating committee will be held to have been elected.

## 2022 Elected Board of Directors Nominations

**(The Secretary of the Corporation, Mary Ellen Sickles, is requesting your nominations by 10/14/2021)**

**Regional Executive** \_\_\_\_\_

**Assistant Regional Executive** \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary** \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member-at-Large** \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: You may nominate yourself for any of these positions.**

## Inside:

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[twitter.wmr-scca.org](https://twitter.wmr-scca.org)

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## WHATEVER YOUR MARQUE...



**Backfire** is publication of the Western Michigan Region of the Sports Car Club of America.

The editor welcomes letters, articles and opinions of our members to be included in this publication provided that

1. The items are edited for grammar and improper expletives.
2. The content is not libelous nor unsupportable. The items must be received no later than the 15th of the month to be included in the next issue when and where space is available.

Submit articles to: Jim Washburn, 2385 Cedar Park Dr. Apt 310, Holt, MI 48842. Microsoft Word documents, PDF files and pictures can be emailed to:

[Jwashburn.us@gmail.com](mailto:Jwashburn.us@gmail.com)