



September 2021

BACKFIRE

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



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It's Solo Time Again At Grattan



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Membership News

WMR welcomes our new or returning members

- John Atsma - Marne, MI
- Johnny Cooper - Grand Blanc, MI
- Laurie Cooper - Grand Blanc, MI
- Greta Gillenwater - Plymouth, MI
- Gwyneth Gillenwater - Plymouth, MI
- Lisa Gillenwater - Plymouth, MI
- Ryan Gillenwater - Plymouth, MI
- Mark Howell - Suttons Bay, MI
- Paul Ray - Brighton, MI
- Keith Weiland - Grand Rapids, MI
- Joel Whalen - Adrian, MI

Congratulations to the following who celebrated membership anniversaries last month

- 11 years Eric Anderson
- 7 years Lydia Hansen
- 6 years Ken Avery
- 4 years Dale Sheppard
- 4 years Julie Sheppard
- 4 years Nicholas Sheppard
- 4 years Mike Eilander
- 3 years Steven Holt
- 3 years Tom Nunheimer
- 3 years Bruce Harrington Jr
- 2 years McKeel Hagerty
- 1 year Andrew Duma
- 1 year Sean Suputra
- 1 year William Benson
- 1 year Brian Frederick

WHAT YOU GET IN EVERY 1985 ALFA ROMEO.



If you find your heart racing after a few minutes behind the wheel of an Alfa Romeo GTV-6, it's not because you're an extremely excitable person. It's because the Alfa Romeo GTV-6 is an extremely exciting machine. You see, the engineers of Alfa Romeo have always had a single purpose: to build racing cars that win. And they have succeeded as no other carmaker has. Over the last 75 years, Alfa Romeo has captured more racing victories than any other European carmaker. In fact, Alfa Romeo collected 607 first place finishes last year alone. But you don't have to be a race driver to experience the technology and performance features that have produced such an impressive track record. They're built into every Alfa Romeo we sell. (The very same GTV-6 that's available from your local Alfa dealer has won the European Touring Championship for the last three years, finishing ahead of Jaguar XJS V12s and BMW 633s.) And there's something else you get in every 1985 Alfa Romeo. Workmanship of such superior quality it's backed by a 3 year/36,000 mile warranty.*

The Alfa Romeo GTV-6 starts at \$16,500*. Why not test drive one soon. And let your heart race a little.



For further information on Alfa Romeo or the new European Delivery Program, and your local dealer, call and the dealer nearest you, call toll free 1-800-441-4386. *Limited warranty applies only to U.S. spec. automobiles purchased from authorized U.S. Alfa Romeo dealers. **MSRP. MSRP, actual price at U.S. dealer. Actual price may vary. Dealer, state, taxes, license, title, and other options. Excludes freight and tax. See dealer.

PONTIAC FIERO

BURSTS ON THE SCENE TO RAVE REVIEWS!



From the moment the hot new mid-engine Fiero hit America's streets, it became the driving sensation of the year. And the automotive critics agree: The Fiero 2M4 is a thrill to look at, a joy to ride in, and a ball to drive. — CAR AND DRIVER, September 1983. Fiero features fully-independent suspension, rack and pinion steering and power four-wheel disc brakes, all standard. But Fiero excitement isn't limited to the way it drives.

The Fiero has its own brand of fresh technology: a space frame machined to tolerances normally reserved for engines and transmissions. — MOTOR TRENDS, September 1983. The Fiero space frame is "milled and drilled" for precise fit of the Enduraflex™ body panels, which resist minor dents and will never rust. And what about Fiero's bottom line? We welcome its addition to the ranks of affordable machines for enthusiasts drivers. —

ROAD & TRACK, September 1983. Fiero prices start at just \$7,999! Even at \$8,499! (Fiero Sport Coupe shown). Fiero takes its rightful place among the great cars of the world. The mid-engine Pontiac Fiero: practical, durable, economical and flat-out exciting — only from Pontiac!

Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price including dealer prep, taxes, license, destination charge and optional equipment additional. Fiero Sport Coupe (shown) with 1600 cc. gas — 1600 cc. engine. Pontiac Fiero Sport Coupe offers an EPA city/mile of 28/36 and highway mileage of 40/51. See dealer for more information. *Actual highway mileage may vary. Some Pontiacs are equipped with engines produced by other GM divisions, subsidiaries or affiliated companies worldwide. See your Pontiac dealer for details.



PONTIAC WE BUILD EXCITEMENT

Our General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting

--- Please Join Us At ---

Pietro's Italian Restaurant

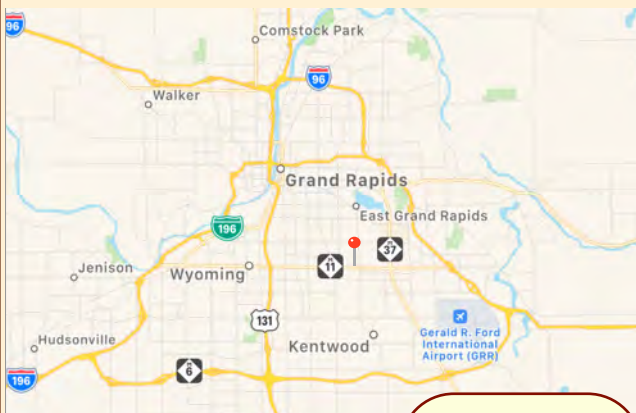
2780 Birchcrest Dr SE, Grand Rapids, MI



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.



Our next meeting will be September 11, 2021



Pietro's Italian Restaurant
2780 Birchcrest Dr SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
(616) 452-3228

Region Calendar

September 11, 2021

General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting at Pietro's Italian Restaurant, 2780 Birchcrest Dr SE, Grand Rapids, MI. Dinner at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:00pm

October 09, 2021

General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting at TBD

November 13, 2021

General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting at TBD

December 11, 2021

General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting at TBD

Contributors

JIM WASHBURN
Backfire Editor

DAYLE FRAME
Competition Manager

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>

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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
for more information.

To Register for a specific event go to
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



Solo at Grattan Raceway

Western Michigan Region, SCCA



Our Annual Labor Day Event Monday, September 6, 2021

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.



Dayle Frame
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Notes from the Director's Chair

Area 4 Director Update for September, 2021

I headed out to Kansas City, MO for the first, face to face meeting of the Club Racing Board (CRB) and the Board of Directors (BoD). After months of “meeting” my fellow BoD and CRB members via Zoom conference video connections, it was nice to actually meet them in Kansas City, MO at the end of July. I also managed to frequent a couple of my favorite BBQ joints while I was there.

The CRB was first on 7/30. This was an all day meeting was designed to be more strategic and focus on the long-term goals of the CRB. We discussed data acquisition strategies, class structure, CRB and ad hoc committee membership and Majors run groups among other things. It was universally agreed that this was a very successful meeting and something to build upon. Again, so much more is accomplished in person than across a video feed.

The next day was the BoD meeting. This was also an all day meeting and it was designed to allow us to get updates from the various Boards and SCCA staff. We heard from Bob Davis (Solo Events Board Chair), Jeff Dahnert (Finance and Administration Director), Heyward Wagner (Director of Rally & Solo), Kristen Poole (Marketing Director), Eric Prill (Vice President of Road Racing) and Peter Keane (CRB Chair) among others. I made a short presentation about the EVAC and its goals. Once again, a very productive meeting. We are scheduled to meet face to face again in early December.

I had a really nice time meeting new folks and seeing old friends. I drove my EV out there (round trip of 1550 miles for \$23.09) and caught up on my backlog of podcasts. Man, there's a lot of corn between here and there.

Video Conference Meetings:

- CRB (8/3): After having met just a few days earlier, the CRB got back to the task of wading through letters sent to the CRB for review. The results can be seen [here](#).
- Electrified Vehicle Advisory Committee (EVAC)(8/11): We reviewed some documents the committee is working on (super secret stuff). We prepared for the release of these documents over the course of the next few months and making significant announcements about EVs in the SCCA.

- CRB (8/17): A sub group of us met to discuss the rules process.
- Rally Cross Board (RXB) (8/24): The group is working hard to prepare for their [National Championships](#). They'll be held at the Ross County Fairgrounds near Chillicothe, OH on 10/15-10/17. I am looking forward to being there and watching the action. I encourage all of you to do so as well.
- BoD (8/30): I will report about this next month.

SCCA Events:

- WMR Major @ Grattan Raceway (8/21, 8/22): I attended this event as an F&C worker and thoroughly enjoyed it. Yes, it was pretty hot and humid (hey, its August in Michigan) but a very large car count by our standards (160 ish) made for some exciting action on track. WMR also had its usual GREAT Saturday evening, all attendee dinner catered by Q-It-Up...a fabulous meal.

September and October have me going to a Solo at Grattan Raceway on Labor Day (9/6), the [Runoffs](#) (9/24 to 10/3) and the [RallyX National Championships](#) (10/15 to 10/17).

Please forgive me but I'll probably be too busy at the Runoffs to publish an October update. In addition to crewing for several friends in our six driver, six car, seven entry compound at Indy, I'm also working for the data acquisition crew, I'm a reserve pace/safety car driver and I'll be giving away trophies for three classes in the Winner's Circle. November's update will be EPIC!

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you soon. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have about any facet of the GLDiv. I want you to make the most of your membership and I will help out in any way possible to make that happen.

Dayle Frame



Solo #2 at Grattan Raceway

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.



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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:

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