



August 2019

BACKFIRE

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



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Join Us For
All The Fun



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Webmaster

OPEN at this time

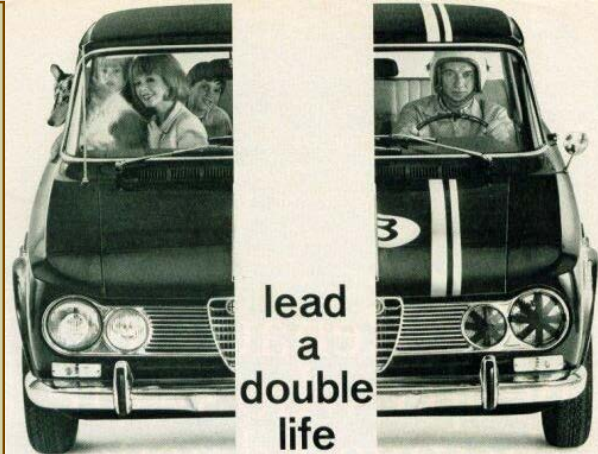
Membership News

WMR welcomes our new or returning members

- Sean Conely - Fenton, MI
- Dustin Moody - Middleville, MI
- Jamie Taylor - Stockbridge, MI

Congratulations to the following who celebrated membership anniversaries last month

- 41 years Thomas Start
- 29 years Chris Bischoff
- 29 years J Phillip Cull
- 27 years Jason Gyulay
- 16 years Dr. Raymond Barnes
- 15 years Terry Feichtenbiner
- 14 years Craig Nedeau
- 14 years Anna Basaj
- 14 years Michael Basaj
- 11 years Ann Felice
- 6 years Pete Hansen
- 6 years Debra Hansen
- 5 years Tyler Wilson
- 5 years Robert Hardin
- 4 years Scott Beute
- 3 years Marsella White
- 3 years Matthew White
- 3 years Irene Dalziel
- 3 years Michael Miles
- 2 years Mitchell Winoiecki
- 2 years Tayler Hoevenaar
- 2 years Paul Zube
- 1 year Morgan Dalman
- 1 year Ted Ooievaar



GIULIA SUPER
A FAMILY SPORTS CAR
FOR ONLY \$2995 POE

One'll get you two in Alfa's exciting new Giulia Super—a deluxe family sedan for hauling the troops, and a high-performance charger ready to race. Tick off these features:

For your family. A four-door sedan carrying five in armchair comfort. Fully reclining bucket seats. Roomy trunk (16 cubic feet). Fade-free 4-wheel disk brakes, padded anti-glare dash, pop-out windshield, seat belt anchors and much more.

For you. A race-bred sports car with five forward speeds, fully synchronized. All-aluminum engine with twin overhead cams, two dual-throat carburetors, five main bearings. Top speed: over 110 mph. Sensational road-holding and cornering on premium radial-ply tires.

This camouflaged sports car with its functional aerodynamic body born in a wind tunnel, its spirited performance and superb handling, is a remarkable value at only \$2995 POE. Everyone rates a chance to drive an Alfa Romeo at least once.

What are you waiting for?

231 Johnson Ave., Newark, New Jersey 07108
1700 Daisy Ave., Long Beach, California 90813



Sports Car Club of America drivers call it a champion.
(Typical American understatement.)

In the SCCA National Championships last year, the Mark III Spitfire took first, second and third in its class.

Champion indeed! That's what the English would call a bit of all right. But we didn't rest on our laurels. We rad-




ically reworked the 1970 champion to make it work even better for 1971. On our new Mark IV, we strengthened the engine bearings, designed a new close ratio all-synchro gearbox and modified the suspension for improved balance and road holding. And while we were doing things for the



inside, Ferrari body designer Michelotti did a lot for the outside.

As far as we can tell, the car is now—to use an American term—"A-OK" by anybody's standards. You try it at your Triumph dealer. The new improved champion for 1971.

Triumph Spitfire 

For the name of your nearest Triumph dealer, call 800-631-1971 toll free. In New Jersey, call 800-962-2803. British Leyland Motors, Inc., Leonia, N. J. 07065.

Our General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting Location

--- 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 14, 2019.



Region Calendar

September 14, 2019

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 12, 2019

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

November 9, 2019

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

Contributors

JIM WASHBURN
Backfire Editor

2019 GREAT LAKES DIVISION
SOLO SERIES SCHEDULE

- June 2 South Bend Region - Grissom Aeroplex, Peru, IN
- June 22 & 23 Indy Region - Grissom Aeroplex, Peru, IN
- July 14 Fort Wayne Region - Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, IN
- **August 17 & 18 Detroit/Saginaw Valley Region - Wurtsmith Airport, Oscoda, MI**
- September 21 & 22 Cincinnati Region - Traders World, Cincinnati, OH
- October 19 South West Virginia Region - Grand Central Mall, Vienna, WV

For more information and to Register for a specific event go to

www.soloseries.org

* * * *

2019 WMR SOLO SCHEDULE

- TBD TBD
- **September 2 WMR Labor Day Event at Grattan Raceway Park, Grattan, MI**
- October 26 WMR Grattan Event #2 at Grattan Raceway Park, Grattan, MI

Contact **Brad Yonkers** at bradyonkers@gmail.com for more information.

2019 GREAT LAKES DIVISION
CLUB RACING SCHEDULE

- April 13 GLDiv/WHRRRI Driver's School (classroom) at Waterford Hills
- April 27 - 28 GLDiv/WHRRRI Driver's School (track time) at Waterford Hills
- May 2 - 5 VSCDA "Gingerman Spring Brake Drivers School & Races" at Gingerman
- May 18 - 19 DET / SBR "Bert Olson" Majors Double Event at GingerMan
- May 31 - June 2 OVR "Race of Champions" Majors Double Event at Mid-Ohio
- June 22 - 23 SVRA Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-Ohio at Mid-Ohio
- June 22 - 23 WMR "Unrestricted" Double Regional at Grattan
- July 13 - 14 OVR Double Regional at Mid- Ohio
- July 20 - 21 DET/INR/SBR Double Regional at Gingerman
- July 27 - 28 DET/INR/SBR Time Trial National Tour at Gingerman
- **August 2 Cincinnati Region PDX at Mid-Ohio**
- **August 3 - 4 Cincinnati Region Double Regional at Mid-Ohio**
- **August 10 - 11 WMR "Last Chance" Majors Event at Grattan**
- **August 16 - 18 VSCDA "Vintage Grand Prix Au Grattan XXX" at Grattan**
- October 8 - 13 2019 SCCA National Runoffs at Virginia International Raceway (VIR)
- October 25 OVR PDX at Mid-Ohio
- October 26 - 27 OVR Double "Sprint Classic" Regional at Mid-Ohio

For more information and to Register for a specific event go to

www.motorsportreg.com

WMR SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM

Available Credits and Redemption Information

Credits earned with our Service Award Program may be carried over for the most recent two consecutive years.

SOME OF OUR MEMBERS (see below on the next page) have **unused banquet tickets and credits earned in 2017 and 2018**. The 2018 banquet tickets may be used for our next Banquet and the both the 2017 and the 2018 credits can be used for SCCA Merchandise or applied to your 2019 membership renewal fees. (The 2017 credits however, will expire when the new plan year begins on December 1, 2019.)

To use your credit for merchandise.

Review and note the item(s) at sccagear.com, then contact Dave Ferris, our club Treasurer, at 1988irocz28@gmail.com with the product information. He will verify your available credit, ask you to confirm the item number, size, color, etc, and ask you to send a check to him for the balance. He will then place the order to be shipped directly to you.

To use your credit for membership renewal.

When you receive your membership renewal information in the mail, contact Dave at 1988irocz28@gmail.com to verify the amount of credit available. Then mail the renewal form and a check for the difference between your renewal amount and the available credit to Dave. He will forward it to SCCA where it will be processed.

WMR Service Award Program - Available Credits as of 8-01-2019

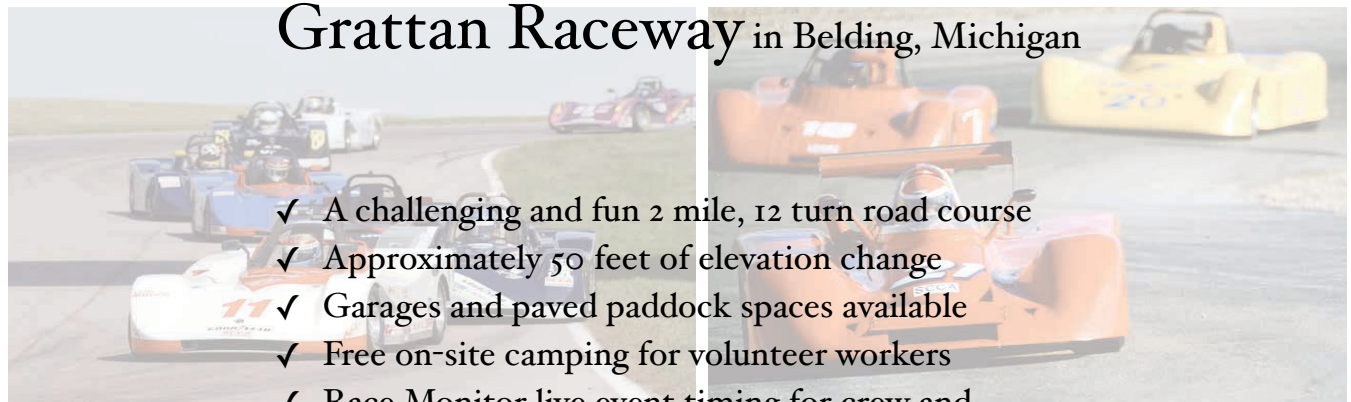
Member Name	Banquet Tickets Available as of 8/1/2019	\$ Credits Available as of 8/1/2019
Andrews, Sue	0	\$25.00
Barnes, Ray	0	\$50.00
Basaj, Anna	0	\$10.00
Basaj, Carola	0	\$25.00
Basaj, Lenny	0	\$25.00
Beauvais, Bruce	0	\$100.00
Beauvais, Sue	0	\$50.00
Boris, Jeff	0	\$50.00
Burnside, Alice	0	\$10.00
Burnside, Gary	0	\$10.00
Crider, Karen	1	\$100.00
Cull, Phil	0	\$35.00
Dalziel, Irene	0	\$10.00
DeLoof, Steve	0	\$20.00
Doane, Marty	0	\$10.00
Doane, Nancy	0	\$0.00
Ensing, Gordy	0	\$35.00
Ferris, Dave	1	\$0.00
Frame, Dayle	0	\$35.00
Frame, Melinda	0	\$25.00
Gaunt-Wandell, Lorrie	1	\$75.00
Green, Ric	1	\$25.00
Gyulay, Jason	0	\$50.00
Gyulay, Mary Beth	0	\$0.00
Hansen, Debbie	0	\$0.00
Hansen, Lydia	0	\$50.00

Member Name	Banquet Tickets Available as of 8/1/2019	\$ Credits Available as of 8/1/2019
Hansen, Pete	0	\$0.00
Hawley, Fred	1	\$45.00
Henry, Marc	0	\$25.00
Henry, Vicki	0	\$0.00
Lublow, Ed	0	\$10.00
Maklenburg, Ed	0	\$25.00
McCormick, Nathan	0	\$10.00
Orr, Bobbe	1	\$50.00
Redlon, Larry	0	\$25.00
Rogers, Wayne	0	\$50.00
Secor, Jeff	0	\$0.00
Sickles, Mary Ellen	0	\$63.10
Sickles, Rod	0	\$50.00
Smolenski, Tom	0	\$75.00
Steencken, Barb	0	\$25.00
Trotter, Bob	0	\$0.00
Walters, Allison	0	\$10.00
Walters, Dave	0	\$10.00
Wandell, Verne	1	\$95.00
Washburn, Jim	1	\$0.00
Williamson, Aric	0	\$10.00
Williamson, Sara	0	\$0.00
Woods, Thomas	0	\$10.00
Woods, Tyler	0	\$10.00
Yonkers, Brad	1	\$0.00

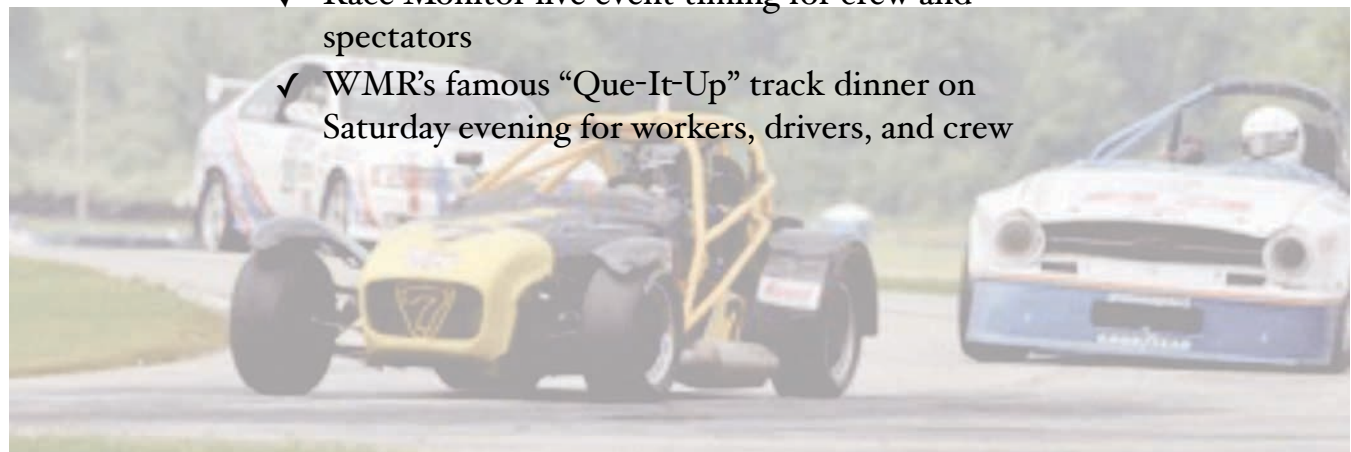


Come out for
“The Last Chance Majors at Grattan”
our 2019 SCCA Majors Tour Event
held by the
Western Michigan Region
August 10th & 11th, 2019

Grattan Raceway in Belding, Michigan



- ✓ A challenging and fun 2 mile, 12 turn road course
- ✓ Approximately 50 feet of elevation change
- ✓ Garages and paved paddock spaces available
- ✓ Free on-site camping for volunteer workers
- ✓ Race Monitor live event timing for crew and spectators
- ✓ WMR’s famous “Que-It-Up” track dinner on Saturday evening for workers, drivers, and crew



ATTENTION

— Club Racing Drivers —

If you need an annual technical inspection, please contact the Chief Scrutineer, Ed Maklenburg at emaklenburg@frontier.com or call him at (248) 685-2773 well in advance of coming to the track so we can minimize your wait time and the wait time of others.

Get Involved

A Call for Volunteer Workers

for the Upcoming Racing Season

How can I help? Don't worry, there are lots of ways!

Motorsports is more than just driving, and there are a million-and-one ways to get involved. Running an event requires the talents of a wide variety of dedicated individuals. Our members enjoy serving in all types of exciting positions. If you ever thought you might like to give racing a try.. working races can give you valuable insights into driving, preparation, and the race tracks themselves. Getting involved as a race worker or an official is as easy as going to a local event and volunteering to help. There are lots of jobs to do... One of these might be just for you.

Those wanting to lend a hand are welcomed with open arms, and are rewarded with adventure, camaraderie, and friendship. Volunteers can register at any event even if they have no prior experience. We will provide the basic training and pair you up with an experienced worker. Over time you will grow into the position you like. Of course, if your first choice doesn't meet your expectations there are many more to choose from.

Workers are issued a license just like the competition drivers, and can work their way up through the four levels of licenses by participating at different events and gaining the knowledge and experience necessary to hold a National License. In addition to local events, SCCA licensed workers help staff most of the professional motor-sport events held in the United States including SCCA Pro Racing, IndyCar, IMSA, NASCAR, and Formula One.

If you are still unsure about which type of volunteer work you would like to do, just contact one of our Specialty Chiefs. The brief summary below is aimed at shaping your impression of what may fit your style and desire.

Registration

The Registrar is the intake person for our Club Racing events. The Registrar is responsible for checking in drivers, crew and workers for the event. The registration team work just outside the track entrance at a registration station or desk where race credentials are verified, insurance waivers are signed, entry fees are collected, and information and schedules for the race weekend are distributed. Be the first official face they see, point them to where they need to be and make sure everyone gets started on the right track. If you have good organizational skills this could be the place for you.



For more information on this Specialty please contact: Marilyn Russell, Chief of Registration, at (rotaryracer@comcast.net) or call her at 260-338-0134.

Scrutineer / Tech

If you have interest in inspecting race cars and poking around under the hood, this might be an ideal place for you. There are two primary functions of tech. The first entails a complete pre-race visual inspection of all the safety equipment including driver suits, helmets, seat belts, shoulder belts, the roll cage, the fire system, and the general integrity and race worthiness of the car.

The second function is to impound cars at the end of a race to determine their legality with respect to the General Competition Rules and the specifications for their class (often times, the car's minimum weight). The Scrutineer is also responsible for post-race inspections possibly including mechanical teardown's due to a competitor protest



For more information on this Specialty please contact: Larry Pannemann, Chief Scrutineer, at (lpnam@aol.com) or call him at 414-573-7441.

Start

All eyes are on the Starter holding the flag at the beginning and the end of the race, but waving the green and the checker flags is just a small part of what Starters do. The Starter communicates the Chief Steward's instructions to the drivers through a series of colored flags, beginning with the green flag to start the race. In addition, the Starters maintain the lap count, the elapsed time for the session, and must follow the race order by charting the race as it unfolds. Throughout the race, the Starter also uses other flags, including: blue, black, red, yellow, white, and of course, the flag every leading driver eagerly awaits, the checkered flag!



For more information on this Specialty please contact: Mark Henry, Chief of Start, at (bluezracer@yahoo.com) or call him at 269-720-1493.

Timing and Scoring

If you want to have the best viewing seat on the course, stay out of the weather and have first hand knowledge of whose who and whose winning, then, Timing and Scoring is for you. The function of Timing and Scoring (T&S) is to report the race by recording each competitor's speed, scoring him/her according to the number of laps completed and the order in which the car crossed the start/finish line; and to produce accurate results of the race. In earlier days stopwatches were used to track driver's lap times. Each timer was assigned one or more cars to record lap times on time cards. Things have changed a lot since then and now this is tracked electronically with computers and in-car transponders.

Join us and be a part of a great team that documents and generates the official results for the race. You will find working in Timing and Scoring is both fun and rewarding.

For more information on this Specialty please contact: Dave Ferris, Chief of Timing and Scoring, at (1988irocz28@gmail.com) or call him at 517-290-7128.



Flagging and Communications

Workers in F&C are the eyes, ears and hands of those in charge. One of the most visible specialties, these are the corner workers whom you see dressed in white at every race track in the United States. This specialty is actually made up of three subspecialties. Flagging, Communications, and Safety. The F&C worker takes a position along the course and uses flags and hand signals to communicate track conditions to each driver. They use an array of colored flags to communicate to the drivers about the condition of the track, and radio's or land lines to communicate with Race Control about incidents on the portion of track for which they are responsible. The third part of this specialty is Safety and as such they are the first responders to most incidents on the track. They are the first ones to arrive at an incident and help the unfortunate driver get out of harm's way. They also lend a hand and assist in cleaning up the mess left behind.



For more information on this Specialty please contact: Pete Hansen, Chief of Flagging, at (hansens@altelco.net) or call him at (616) 895-7661. or contact: Lydia Hansen, Chief of Communications, at (liddyhansen@gmail.com) or call her at (616) 633-8923.

Grid Worker's and Pit Marshal's

Grid worker's line up cars at the beginning of each session and are responsible for insuring that the race cars are placed in the proper order for the beginning of the race. They also check the driver's safety gear, and make sure they have their belts fastened, their helmet strapped, their gloves on, their window net is up, their arm restraints are on, and that they're ready to go. Lastly, they are responsible for traffic control as cars are released to the track.



For more information on this Specialty please contact: Mary Ellen Sickles, Chief of Grid, at (rmsickles@comcast.net) or call her at 517-372-1477.



The Pit Marshal's control action in the Pit lane... they serve as traffic cops and fire control personnel during practice, qualifying, and the race. They ensure that conditions in the Pits are safe at all times and make sure all personnel in the Pits follow the rules and procedures outlined in the General Competition Rules book. During the racing event, the Pit Marshal's are there to ensure the competitor's entry to and exit from the Pit area is done in a safe manner and to oversee the safety of car crews servicing the car.

For more information on this Specialty please contact: Duane Belisle, Chief of Pit, at (mazdaman86@msn.com) or call him at 574-875-9868.

Course Control

The Course Marshal's main responsibility is the clearing the track of disabled and stopped vehicles. Some of these cars may have a mechanical problem or they may simply have run out of gas and they need to be towed back to their paddock area. Course Marshal's may also assist in clean-up of the track during and after events in the event of fluid spills or other situations that may leave debris on the track surface.

In addition, the Course Marshal's may assist in the distribution of corner equipment and the maintenance of corner equipment, including fire extinguishing equipment between events.

For more information on this Specialty contact: Wayne Rogers, Chief of Course Control, at (wrogers280z73@netzero.net) or call him at 616-238-6186.



Sound Control

Want to get close to the action, but don't want to be in the action? If so, Sound Control could be for you. Those who staff Sound Control get to be out near the track and the action, but since their duty is to read the sound meter, they don't go out on the track like the F&C workers do.



Racing noise may be music to a fans ears, but to the nearby landowner it may not be so pleasant. On a race track with noise regulations, SCCA Sound Control officials monitor the sound level of passing race vehicles during all practice, qualifying and race sessions. The sound output of the cars is recorded during practice, qualifying and the race to ensure compliance with a set level, usually 103 decibels. These readings are logged by car number and class every lap when the car is clear of traffic that could interfere with the reading. Cars that exceed the maximum allowable level are reported to the operating Steward so that appropriate action can be taken to correct the problem and allow the car to return to the track.

Regular sound level meter calibrations as well as various weather conditions such as temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, and barometric pressure, are checked and recorded. As weather conditions change, they are again recorded and adjustments are made as necessary.

For more information on this Specialty contact: Carola Basaj, Chief of Sound, at (lenny.basaj@gmail.com)

We are asking all volunteers to sign up in the (workers) section at (wmr-scca.motorsportreg.com) before coming to the event.

This gives us a better idea of staffing levels for each of the specialties and allows us to better plan for the provided lunches, worker gifts, and the Saturday dinner party.

However, volunteers, especially first time volunteers, can alternatively sign up at the Registration desk at the race event.



Solo at Grattan Raceway

Western Michigan Region, SCCA



Our Annual Labor Day Event Monday, September 2, 2019

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.



WMR Backfire Editor
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Inside:

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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