



**20** DE #1 at M1 Concourse

## UPCOMING SEM AND PCA SPONSORED EVENTS SEE DETAILS INSIDE



**12**

Munks Tech Session



**16**

New Member Welcome



**28**

Auto Medics  
Tech Session



**32**

Spring Tour



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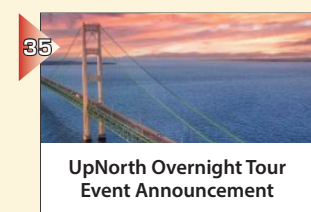


# P4 PORSCHE PUSHES PRIVATE PAPERS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN REGION, PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

## CONTENTS

9		Board of Directors and Officers ..... 4
	Solstice Tour Event Announcement	SEM/PCA Calendar ..... 5
		President's Column ..... 7
		Solstice Tour Event Announcement ..... 9
		SEM/PCA Webstore ..... 10
		Waterford Hills Family Day Event Announcement ..... 11
11		Munks Tech Session ..... 12
	Waterford Hills Family Day Event Announcement	Progressive Dinner Event Announcement ..... 15
		New Member Welcome ..... 16
		3D Detroit Cars & Coffee Event Announcement ..... 19
		DE #1 at M1 Concourse ..... 20
		TOTD / BOTD Event Announcement ..... 25
		'Upshifting' by Tom Fielitz ..... 26
		SEM Picnic and Concours Event Announcement ..... 27
		Auto Medics Tech Session ..... 28
		SEM/PCA Photo of the Month ..... 30
		DE #3 at Waterford Hills Event Announcement ..... 31
		Spring Tour ..... 32
		UpNorth Overnight Tour Event Announcement ..... 35
		The Place for Porsches & Parts ..... 37
		SEM/PCA Member Name Badges ..... 38
		Digital Membership Card ..... 38
		PCA Recognizes Membership Anniversaries ..... 38
		Welcome New Members ..... 39
		SEM/PCA Member Anniversaries ..... 39
		SEM Business Meeting Minutes for May ..... 40
		PCA National Ad - New Auto Renewal Features ..... 41
		SEM/PCA Membership Procedures ..... 42
		P4 Index of Advertisers ..... 42
		P4 Advertising Rates ..... 42



**ON THE COVER:**  
 DE #1 at M1 Concourse  
 Member Robert Carno prepares  
 to pass Ted Vartabedian  
 during an Advanced group session.  
 Photo by: Chris Randolph of C.A.R. Visuals



# Southeast Michigan Region Porsche Club Of America



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# 2026 SEM/PCA CALENDAR

## JUNE

- 4 Business Meeting
- 5 DE #2 at Waterford Hills
- 14-20 \*Porsche Parade
- 21 \*Eyes on Design Car Show at the Ford Estate
- 27 Solstice Tour
- 28 Waterford Hills Family Day

## JULY

- 2 Business Meeting
- 10-12 \*Northville Concours d'Elegance
- 11 \*Gilmore Car Museum Deutsche Marque
- 25 Progressive Dinner
- 26 3D Detailing - Cars and Coffee
- 30-2 Overnight Tour -  
Tail of the Dragon / Back of the Dragon

## AUGUST

- 2 \*Troy Traffic Jam
- 6 Board Meeting
- 15 \*Woodward Dream Cruise
- 16 Picnic and Concours
- 22 DE #3 at Waterford

## SEPTEMBER

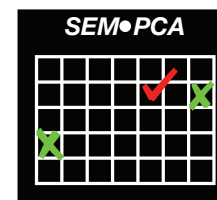
- 3 Business Meeting
- 11 DE #4 at Waterford
- 18-19 \*Cars at the Station
- 20 Drive your Porsche Day
- 26 Ladies Drive

### Future Event Possibilities:

This is a starting point of events for the 2026 Calendar Year. Events may be added, deleted or dates changed as desired.

### \*Not an SEM/PCA event

**All Dates and Events are subject to confirmation**  
5.16.26 FCY



The club has reset & updated the club calendar. PLEASE download the **SEM/PCA CALENDAR** Link to instructions on how to add SEM/PCA Calendar to your PC, Laptop, iOS, Android and Windows devices. <https://sem.pca.org/2017/11/27/new-calendar/>  
The SEM/PCA Website/Cellular Calendar is now ready to be DOWNLOADED  
Keep up to date on all the SEM/PCA events. Get the latest most up to date information.

### ATTENTION MEMBERS

#### Stay abreast of the latest PCA/SEM News!

Please log-in to pca.org (Membership/My Account/Edit tabs) to verify your contact information is up to date. Numerous members have missing or incorrect E-mail addresses.

### BUSINESS MEETINGS

Business meetings are typically held on the first Thursday of the month at various locations.  
Please note: for anyone interested in attending future Business meetings, please contact any board member.

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# Summer's finally here



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## President's Column



ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY LISA MOLZON - SEM PRESIDENT

May in Michigan – you never know what kind of weather you will be dealt. All-in-all, we did get relatively lucky with the weather for our driving events last month.

Saturday, May 9th, **Steve Carbary**/DE Chair and **Marc Molzon**/Chief Instructor, organized the first **High Performance Driver Education** (HPDE or DE for short) for the season at M1 Concourse in Pontiac. A fantastic facility and a beautiful track! It was wonderful to see returning drivers, our fantastic instructors, and new faces come out for the day in a closed-course environment. We have 3 DEs left in the season. Bring your high-performance Porsche, or any other high-performance vehicle, and learn advanced handling techniques and improve your driving skills. Our DEs provide the best environment for driving at spirited speeds – no oncoming traffic, a smooth driving surface, no hidden driveways, no risk of speeding tickets, and the only speed limit is on Pit Lane.

After a long winter, it was so good to see Members **Dan Harkcom**, **Robert Kalmanir**, **Nobu Asai**, **Jack Barbat** (with daughter Ava also behind the wheel), **Paul Carthew** (welcome back!), **Ralf Deinlein** (we will miss you as **you move back to Germany!**), **Drew Pickering**, **Jayson Field**, and **Michael Cohen**. And looking forward to seeing our newest drivers again at our Waterford Hills DEs: **Dean Waiono**, **Jason Nixon** (SEM Board Member/Webmaster), **Scott Neathamer**, **Malek Jaradi**, **Chuck Williams**, **Gregory Raiford**, and **James Chatfield**. And ladies – this is not an event just for the guys. Come join me, **Ava Barbat**, and **Sarah Manore** – we can certainly hold our own on the track, but it would be great to share this experience with other women! Check out the event photos and article in this issue.

On Sunday, May 16, we offered a 2-part day: a Morning **Tech Session at Auto Medics of Shelby** and then the annual **Spring Tour** in the Afternoon/Evening. Advertiser/Sponsor of our HPDEs, Auto Medics of Shelby, hosted the Tech Session focusing on Porsche track alignments. Thanks to Steve Carbary and Marc Molzon for organizing this event. We are pleased to coordinate and offer Tech Sessions for our Members who are eager to learn more about their vehicles AND are interested in understanding the area's

vehicle servicing facilities (both for high-performance vehicles as well as more standard daily drivers.) We encourage our members to reference all ads in the P4 when searching for a servicing facility.

**Chris Bohr**, SEM VP/Driving Tour Chair, with assistance from Member/Past-President **Dennis Denyer**, organized another wonderful Spring Tour, kicking off the touring season. Thanks to everyone who participated – we enjoy planning these events and enjoy it even more when we see so many members register and share in the experience! Take a few minutes and view the photos and article recap in this issue – and if you couldn't make this driving tour, we have more throughout the year that we hope you are able to experience.

Coming up in June, we have **DE #2 on 6/5**, the **Solstice Tour on 6/27**, and the **Waterford Family Day on 6/28**. See the ad in this issue for details regarding DE #2 - and read the article/see the photos regarding DE #1 to "see" what driving on track is all about.

Pack a lunch and a cooler, bring the kids and/or the grandkids, make it a date with your spouse, or come alone and enjoy front-row viewing of the racing excitement on the hill. Depending on who may be racing that day, you might see some of our SEM Members behind the wheel of a few of the race cars. A wide variety of vehicle types will be racing. This is the closest road course raceway to us in Metro Detroit. If you have never been, this is an excellent opportunity to check out local racing! See the ad in this issue for more information. And don't forget a hat and sunblock.

July will be here sooner than you know it – and we hope you are able to save the date of July 25th for our **Progressive Dinner** event! Registration will open mid-month. Please see the ad in this issue.

And for those of you going to the 70th Porsche Parade this month – Marc and I are also going and looking forward to the events, the camaraderie, the scenic drives and experiencing Lake Placid!

(continued on page 8)

I'd also like to take a moment to extend our thanks to Cedric Alexanian for his efforts on the SEM Board of Directors. Due to life's workload (which many of us certainly can identify with), Cedric has stepped back from the SEM Board of Directors with the hopes to fully re-engage again in the future. David Sculati, Treasurer, has been named Cedric's replacement for the remainder of his term through December - thank you David.

*We appreciate our SEM Members and hope to see you at one of our events!* ■



SEM Spring Tour Drivers Meeting & Door Prizes provided by Porsche Detroit North for the Spring Tour.



Staging drivers in Paddock before heading out on track requires checking every driver before they enter Pit Lane to ensure everyone is authorized to be driving on track and safety equipment is in-place. We don't just hop in a car and "send it" at each HPDE.



## SPONSORED EVENT



### Solstice Tour Saturday, June 27, 2026

**RAIN OR SHINE:** Join your fellow Club Members for a scenic drive through North and West Oakland County to celebrate summer. Registrants will receive the starting location and tour map via an email from Club Registration the week prior to the event.

We'll start this drive early and wrap with lunch:  
Registration opens at 9am  
First car out at 10:30am  
Lunch at approximately Noon

Register via Club Registration (Event 17073) – use URL or QR code below  
<https://clubregistration.net/events/signUp.cfm/event/17073>

Last day to register/cancel: Monday, June 22



Questions, contact:  
Lisa Molzon  
248.318.1570  
[LisaSEMPCA@gmail.com](mailto:LisaSEMPCA@gmail.com)



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## SPONSORED EVENT

*Spend a laid-back day at the race track!*

The Southeast Michigan Porsche Club presents

OUR ANNUAL

# WATERFORD HILLS FAMILY DAY

at the Waterford Hills Race Track

**Sunday, June 28th – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

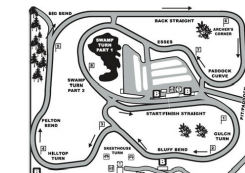
4770 Waterford Road, Clarkston, MI 48346



This is the same track where we hold most of our Driver Education Events! Here you can see a variety of cars racing up close and personal. In fact, some of our own SEM members race here. From any vantage point you can see about two thirds of the track. At lunch time you will be given an opportunity to do parade laps. (\$5.00 per car) Experience the thrill of being on the racetrack doing all the twists and turns that make up the course. It promises to be a fun afternoon.

**Bring the wife, kids, grand kids, friends and neighbors – All are welcome.**

Bring your own lunch and refreshments as the concession stand will not be open. You can go on their website for further information. We hope to see you there to explore this hidden gem so close to home.



**Tickets are only \$5.00 – Children under 16 are Free**

For further information call: Fred Young at (586) 566-3193 or [frederickyong73@gmail.com](mailto:frederickyong73@gmail.com)

Go to [waterfordhills.com](http://waterfordhills.com) for Maps and their Website

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# Munks Tech Session “Four-banger Fourplay”

ARTICLE BY BOBBY TARCHINSKI - MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

PHOTOS BY JAMES TARCHINSKI

While Porsche is renowned for the legendary flat-six, much of the company’s reputation as a “giant killer” was built on the strength of its four-cylinder engines. The Saturday, April 18, tech session at Munk’s Motors celebrated Porsche four-cylinder cars and the enthusiasts who drive them. Despite the morning rain, nearly 40 members and more than two dozen Porsches joined us throughout the day. Attendees enjoyed a full slate of technical demonstrations covering everything from oil changes and corner balancing to preparing your car for a road trip. Everyone also enjoyed lunch: pizza, salad, and chicken, courtesy of our hosts at Munk’s Motors.

After a welcome from SEM members Head Chipmunk Chris Braden and Events Manager Merritt Scott Collins, Munk’s technician and SEM member Evan Quigley kicked things off by demonstrating an oil change on a 718 Boxster. This procedure is particularly challenging due to the placement of the oil filter and its proximity to the vehicle level sensor, which measures vehicle orientation for the headlight system. Evan demonstrated the technique of connecting a piece of hose to drain oil from the filter housing, then unbolting the level sensor to create enough clearance to remove both the housing and filter. He completed the process by installing a new filter and replacing the level sensor with expert care before we moved on to our next project: the 924.

SEM member and fuel-injection guru Vaughan Scott led a discussion on installing electronic fuel injection on the 924. He demonstrated two different systems—one on his own car and another on a Munk’s client car, with each featuring a different EFI setup. Vaughan emphasized the importance of high-quality wiring, proper grounding, and weatherproofing to ensure long-term reliability. From there, we moved on to the car that succeeded the 924: the 944.

While the 944 is known for its meticulous balance and sharp handling, it is equally known for requiring careful attention to its timing belt. Because the engine is an interference

design, a failed belt can quickly result in serious valve damage. When the 944 was introduced in 1983, Porsche recommended checking timing belt tension at 1,200 miles and then every 12,000 miles thereafter. The current replacement interval is generally 10 years or 30,000 miles, whichever comes first. Munk’s shop foreman, 944 owner, and SEM member Rick Christian demonstrated how to check tension on a 944 timing belt. The process involves removing the front timing cover, rotating the engine by hand to cylinder 1 top dead center, and installing Porsche Special Tool 9201 to measure belt tension. Rick also noted the importance of inspecting the water pump at the same time, since it is driven by the timing belt and can contribute to belt failure if it begins to fail.

After the morning demonstrations, we moved into the lunch portion of the day. Members, both new and longtime, had an opportunity to socialize and discuss automotive projects, upcoming drives, restorations, and aspirations for the season ahead. These gatherings are always a highlight of our tech sessions and perfectly capture the PCA motto: “It’s not just the cars, it’s the people.”

After lunch, I presented several items to inspect on your Porsche before a long road trip. Having driven my 25-year-old 911 to Porsche Parades and events across the country, I’ve learned firsthand how important preparation can be. Nothing disrupts a great event faster than a breakdown en route. If you’d like a copy of the pre-road-trip checklist, feel free to stop by Munk’s Motors or email me at Bobby@sem.pca.org, and I’d be glad to send it along.

Shifting to a more track-focused part of the afternoon, PCA Club Racer Brian Mann discussed his track-prepped 944, covering coil-over suspension and other upgrades for performance driving. Rick Christian then returned to demonstrate the fundamentals of corner balancing a 944 for track use.

## Munks Tech Session (continued)

Finally, Munk’s technician and SEM member Marcus Nowry presented upgraded turbochargers and software upgrades currently being installed on a 718 Cayman. In that way, the day came full circle: we began and ended with the newest iteration of Porsche’s four-cylinder sports car.

A huge thank-you to Munk’s Motors for their continued support of SEM PCA and for hosting another outstanding event. And thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate Porsche’s four-cylinder sports car models that may not always receive the spotlight but are every bit as exciting and deserving of recognition. Remember: anytime you get behind the wheel with the Porsche crest on the hood, drive with spirit ... and never lift. ■



Head Chipmunk and Munk’s Motors Founder Chris Braden welcomes attendees.



Munk’s technicians: Evan Quigley and Rick Christian discuss corner balancing a 944.



Four Cylinder cars and enthusiasts of all generations were in attendance.



PCA Club Racer Brian Mann discusses his track prepped 944.



SEM Membership Chair, Bobby Tarchinski discusses prepping your Porsche for a road trip.




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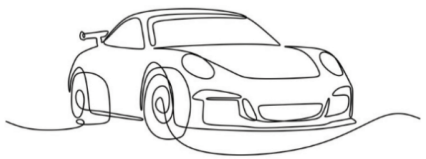
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**SPONSORED EVENT**

## Progressive Dinner Tour

Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>  
Tentative Schedule: 3pm Start & 5pm Dinner  
Rain or Shine

House #1: Appetizers  
House #2: Dinner  
House #3: Dessert



Register to bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert

An afternoon and evening filled with driving, dining, and socializing.  
Limited to the first 50 people - Register today!  
Contact Roger or Denise (below) with dietary restrictions BEFORE registering.  
Locations and driving routes in Oakland County will be provided via email the week of the event.

**Register on Club Reg**  
Following this link starting June 12:  
<https://clubregistration.net/events/signUp.cfm/event/17243> OR

Using this QR Code:



For questions - or to volunteer to host a stop next year - please contact:  
Roger Tayloe: [tayloer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tayloer@sbcglobal.net) or 586.216.9027  
OR  
Denise Tayloe: [denisetayloe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:denisetayloe@sbcglobal.net) or 248.425.0467

# New Member Welcome



ARTICLE BY BOBBY TARCHINSKI - MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

PHOTOS BY JASON NIXON AND CHRIS BOHR

In 2025 and the first quarter of 2026, the Southeast Michigan Region of PCA (SEM PCA) welcomed nearly 120 new members to our ranks. It was only fitting that we celebrate them and welcome them to our region and to the largest single-marque car club in the world with a Porsche party!

On Saturday, April 25, the SEM New Member & Membership Dinner took place at Alibi of Troy. The informal gathering gave new members an opportunity to meet club leadership and learn more about the wide variety of events that make our region so special.

The parking lot was full of Porsches, and the dining room was full of passionate enthusiasts that Saturday afternoon. Club leadership in attendance included President Lisa Molzon; Vice President & Driving Tour Chair Chris Bohr; Secretary & Concours Chair Fred Young; Past President & Safety Chair Howard Gilson; Social Media Chair Jason Nixon; DE Chief Driving Instructor Marc Molzon; Dealer Liaison Michael Cohen; P4 Editor John Grabowski; and Membership Chair Bobby Tarchinski.

During a 45-minute presentation, we took a deep dive into the many events on our annual calendar. Guests were treated to a slideshow of photos, and event chairs had the opportunity to introduce their specific events and areas of focus. Our goal was to highlight the many opportunities available through PCA, help newer members become familiar with the language of the club, and give everyone a sense of the breadth of our offerings. We also wanted members to be able to connect names and

faces with the various events should questions come up down the road.

From there, the evening moved into dinner and socializing. Members, both new and longtime, connected over shared enthusiasm for Porsche and PCA. Plenty of questions were directed to event chairs, all of whom were happy to talk about their areas of the club. Attendees enjoyed a dinner of fresh pizza and salad, along with pasta and homemade bread.

The final portion of the evening featured door prizes made possible by our generous club sponsors and advertisers. With more than 30 prizes available, everyone had a great chance of taking something home. The prizes ranged from hats, shirts, and apparel to posters and books, all with a decidedly Porsche flair.

We are incredibly appreciative of everyone who came out to learn more about our club and our region. I was fortunate to receive several thoughtful notes afterward from new members who were touched by the warm and welcoming atmosphere.

We look forward to making this an annual tradition on our calendar. If you are new to SEM PCA, or if you have not yet attended an event and would like to learn more—please feel free to

reach out to me, Bobby Tarchinski, Membership Chair, at [Bobby@sem.pca.org](mailto:Bobby@sem.pca.org). I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about PCA or Porsche in general. Get out and enjoy your Porsche. I look forward to seeing you at many of our great events this year! ■



## New Member Welcome (continued)

The parking lot was awash in Porsches of all varieties



Attendees listen & learn about all SEM has to offer!



Attendees enjoy dinner & door prizes



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SPONSORED EVENT



3D Detroit, Sterling Heights is hosting a Cars & Coffee on

Sunday, July 26th, 2026  
Starts at 10:00am ends at 1:00pm.

37804 Van Dyke Ave.  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Join us in representing the Southeast Michigan PCA at 3D Cars & Coffee!  
Door Prizes, Product Discounts, Cars & Socializing with other car enthusiasts.  
Special Discount on 3D Products the day of the event.  
Best of all you're able to ask questions on any products that can help you enhance  
the appearance of your Porsche.



Contact Howard Gilson  
howard@sem.pca.org

248-770-1788 or

# DE #1 at M1 Concourse



ARTICLE BY MARC MOLZON - CHIEF DRIVING INSTRUCTOR

PHOTOS BY LISA MOLZON AND CHRIS RANDOLPH OF C.A.R. VISUALS

The first SEM/PCA High Performance Driver Education event—HPDE, or DE for short—of 2026 took place on May 9 at the incredible M1 Concourse. What a fantastic way to start the season. We are fortunate to have access to this amazing facility and appreciate the opportunity to spend a full day enjoying this premier driving venue. From the moment drivers arrived and used their assigned gate codes to enter this exclusive facility, the excitement was building. As participants entered the grounds, they could see the continued expansion of M1 Concourse. Most notable was the construction underway on the X Center, karting garages, and karting track, which are scheduled to open in September.

The paddock quickly filled with an impressive collection of Porsches and other high-performance vehicles as drivers, instructors, and volunteers gathered for the day's activities. Inside the stunning Stirling Salon of the Event Center, drivers completed waivers, checked in, and met their instructors before the morning drivers' meeting began.

With 37 students and 23 instructors—totaling 60 cars for the track, plus several car trailers for hauling some of the non-street-legal vehicles—the turnout was outstanding. Drivers paid close attention during the meeting as important safety procedures, track operations, and session details were reviewed before heading out on track.

As the first session began, cars lined up and were released onto the circuit right on schedule. Throughout the day, sessions ran smoothly and efficiently, giving everyone plenty of valuable track time. It was impossible to miss the smiles on drivers' faces as they returned to the paddock from the track, already eager for their next run.

The provided lunch gave everyone a chance to relax inside, share stories, and recharge before the afternoon sessions. A brief but heavy rain shower in the middle of the afternoon added an extra opportunity for students to develop new driving skills in changing conditions, but the track dried quickly and the action continued. Fortunately, the new permanent structure over the paddock area kept everyone and everything dry during the short downpour.

## DE #1 at M1 Concourse (continued)

When the event wrapped up at 6 PM, drivers were tired but thrilled after a full day of driving their Porsches—and other high-performance vehicles—the way they were designed to be driven.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the first of four SEM/PCA track days for 2026. A huge thank you also goes to our invaluable instructors. We could not put these events on without their passion for coaching and educating drivers. Our DE events would also not be possible without the support of our outstanding sponsors:

- Auto Medics of Shelby
- Nickolas Motorsport
- Munks Motors

We sincerely appreciate their continued support and encourage everyone to support these great businesses.

We hope to see you at our next HPDE event at Waterford Hills on June 5. Additional 2026 SEM/PCA HPDE dates at Waterford Hills are scheduled for August 22 and September 11.

Registration is open and available at [ClubRegistration.net](http://ClubRegistration.net) for all three upcoming events.

**See you at the track!** ■

**MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 23**



Member Brent Kolb leads the pack in the Intermediate group coming up through Turn 8.



An enthusiastic Brent Kolb all ready and about to go on Pit Lane.



Some pre-track smack-talk as drivers stage to go on the Circuit. (Just kidding—everyone was highly respectful and enthusiastic on and off the track.)



Billy Edwards joined us for the day, adding this track to his long list of driven tracks.



DE Chair/Instructor Steve Carbary provides some additional explanations as drivers stage to go on track.

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## DE #1 at M1 Concourse (continued)



Entering Pit Lane at the end of the session, Member Jason Yirsa signals his approval as he slows to 15 mph.



Member Mike Cumming signals he is exiting the track at the end of his session with Member Instructor Gary Mason.



SEM Webmaster Jason Nixon got behind the wheel and joined us on the track, demonstrating his proficient driving skills



Member Ming Su has his eyes up and ahead as he focuses on catching the car ahead.



Member Malek Jaradi is getting the feel of track driving as he is looking ahead and around Turn 10.

**MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 24**



Member Scott Neathamer comes out of Turn 9 and is closing in on completing another lap.



Member Jack Barbat arrived with daughter Ava who is no stranger to the M1 Circuit as she nimbly handles coming up the hill at Turn 8 and approaching Turn 9 with DE Chair/Instructor Steve Carbary.



Member Robert Kalmanir gets some vehicle tips from Instructor Erik Maassen.



Everyone took a lunch cool-down in the Stirling Salon.



Member Nobu Asai enjoying the day and sharing a laugh with Classroom Instructor/Member Andrew Olson.



Member Dan Harkcom with Juergen Gumbinger at the start of the watching the Instructor group on track.



SPONSORED EVENT

2026 Tail of the Dragon/Back of the Dragon Tour

July 30th - August 2nd, 2026

SEM/PCA is bringing you another overnight driving tour where we can drive our Porsches the way they were meant to be driven. This would be a perfect event to see what your Porsche was designed for.



**Tail of the Dragon:** Famous for its 318 curves in just 11 miles—is America’s most thrilling destination for motorcycle riders and sports car enthusiasts. Winding along US 129 where the Great Smoky Mountains meet the Cherokee National Forest, this iconic stretch offers a pure driving experience: no intersections—just you and the road. What makes the Tail of the Dragon legendary isn’t just the technical challenge—it’s the rugged beauty, the rush of adrenaline, and the shared respect among those bold enough to conquer it. If you’re chasing adventure, scenery that stops you in your tracks, and stories that last a lifetime, this is your proving ground.

**Back of the dragon:** Virginia is not just for lovers anymore, it is a destination for driving enthusiasts! Nestled in the Appalachian Mountains on Virginia’s famed Route 16 lies Back of the Dragon...32 miles of exhilarating winding curves and unparalleled excitement. Spanning from Marion to Tazewell, Virginia. Back of the Dragon offers over 400 curves on a two-lane ribbon road for the thrill-seeking sports car aficionado’s while also presenting breathtaking views of the expansive 3 mountain range.

Register at: <https://clubregistration.net/events/signUp.cfm/event/16418>



For more information, please contact:

□ Chris Bohr ([chris@sem.pca.org](mailto:chris@sem.pca.org))

(248) 986-8834



ARTICLE BY TOM FIELITZ - SEM MEMBER

# Upshifting



A long running discussion about driving preferences involves how to properly shift your car especially on a manual gearbox and specifically on shifting up to the proper gear for the road conditions and engine efficiency. This mostly applies to road driving but there could be a track component as well. Just for fun lets delve into the details.

I first started driving with a 1967 VW Beetle. Being new to driving a stick shift I had to learn how to select the right gear for the situation. I strove to have smooth gear shifts and to not abuse the engine or gearbox. As a drivers aid I found that the speedometer had a series of small red dashes around the circumference of the speedometer. Without the aid of a tacheometer it was the only gage indicating when to shift. The marks were at 15 mph, 32 mph and at 45 mph indicating when the car should be shifted from first to second gear, second to third and to fourth or top gear. They were just suggestions and could be ignored but generally they were a useful guide. When I later installed a tachometer found I was keeping the engine revolutions between two and three thousand rpm.

Fast forward to obtaining my first Porsches, the owners manual suggested keeping the rpm in the operating range of two thousand to three thousand rpm in normal driving. The object was to not let the engine drop below a safe operating range so as to avoid stressing the engine with high loads. This made sense but it also required being aware of road conditions such as traffic or road inclinations. Plus I could tell by engine sound how well the engine was performing. Shifting up at three thousand rpm just felt and sounded right as well. I also noted what upshift points maintained the momentum of the car to optimize acceleration. Noting the gap between gear ratios helped to modify the actual shift points for optimum acceleration as well as smooth performance. When I obtained my first 356 the guidelines were very similar even though I was dealing with one fewer gear ratio and a slower revving engine.

The bigger change happened with acquiring a 944. The dash had something new to Porsche; a gage that indicated miles per gallon, with a needle that indicated 20, 30, 40 and 50 and also a green arrow to suggest the selection of the next higher gear ratio. This was just a suggested operation and sometimes it would be too high of a choice of gear for

smooth engine operation. Plus it had no application for track use. Its operation was based on engine vacuum so it really was not a factual indication of gas usage. It was not included on the 911 or 928 at the time.

In 1975 the NHTSB or National Highway Traffic Safety Board got involved as a result of the gas crises to address fuel consumption. The result was CAFE or Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency standards setting minimum fuel economy across car model lines. Porsche decided to try to modify driver behavior with the upshift light. This time they had more parameters to use and a sophisticated DME computer. Measuring many factors such as engine operating condition and efficiency through combustion and air fuel ratios along with running factors such as engine load, temperature, and selected gear; an arrow at the bottom of the tachometer would flash to suggest upshifting to a higher gear. Again it was only a suggestion and was almost universally ignored by drivers. In fact it only worked sporadically and owners either never saw it or in some cases it stayed on continuously. Some owners disabled the light through program changes to the DME or in simple acts such as disconnecting the wire to the bulb or removing the bulb altogether. The less sophisticated attempt was just to apply a piece of electrical tape over the light.

All of the models of Porsche from then until now have the technical capability to display an upshift light. It appears though that it doesn't apply to Tiptronic equipped cars and is programmed to not show up in Sport or Sport Plus settings of the DSG transmission.

The Tiptronic transmission, that is also used in other car lines besides Porsche, has an interesting gas saving feature. Like the DSG, it has an adaptive shifting computer. Shift points can vary depending on the acceleration habits of the driver unless manually selected. A very gentle touch of the accelerator will yield early upshifts thus saving gas. Using Sport mode will hold gears to about three thousand rpm and downshift at around two thousand. In the case of Tiptronic and DSG, there is programming to protect the engine from lugging and knock as well as exceeding the rev limits.

Whatever your shifting habits, the primary factor for me is how much fun I can have while driving. ■



SPONSORED EVENT

## OUR ANNUAL PORSCHE SEM FAMILY PICNIC AND CONCOURS



*Make some new friends, see some great cars, and have a wonderful day. Please join us on*

**Sunday, August 16, 2026**

**at Springdale Park, Birmingham, Michigan**

Off of northbound Woodward north of Big Beaver, turn right on Strathmore



**Arrival and Car Preparation begins at 9:00 a.m.  
Concours Judging begins at 11:30 a.m. Sharp  
Picnic Lunch Served at 1:00 p.m.**



**Registration <https://clubregistration.net/events/signUp.cfm/event/17196>**

**YOU MUST REGISTER ONLINE FOR THIS EVENT.**

**Attendance is limited.**

Last years picnic and concours was a rousing success. We expect a great turnout again this year. The concours is the outside of the car including the wheels. Here is the excuse you need to make your car looking its best. Trophies are awarded in eight categories so everyone has a great chance of winning one. Don't miss this fun event and register early.

Lunch consists of dishes brought by members and an excellent meal with hors d'oeuvres provided by the co-chairs of this event.

As a bonus, early arrivals are treated to a wonderful breakfast.

**\$10.00 per person (\$15.00 after August 9th) Children under 16 are free.**

**Contact: Howard Gilson at (248) 770-1788 or [hgilson@ameritech.net](mailto:hgilson@ameritech.net)**

Concours questions? Call Fred Young at (586) 566-3193 or [frederickyoung73@gmail.com](mailto:frederickyoung73@gmail.com)

# Auto Medics Tech Session

## Keeping it Straight



ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY STEVE CARBARY - DE CHAIR

Every auto enthusiast—and, for that matter, every car owner—has heard about the importance of a **wheel alignment**. Most readers are probably aware that a poor alignment can cause significant issues, including accelerated tire wear, poor handling, and even premature suspension component failure. These problems can cost drivers both time and money if they are not addressed promptly.

But what is really involved in a wheel alignment? What adjustments are made to correct it? And what keeps it all straight?

The experts at **Auto Medics of Shelby** hosted our club for a tech session on May 16 to take a deeper dive into the art and science of automotive alignments. About 20 members arrived that morning with questions and curiosity about what is involved in alignments, as well as the suspension components that affect a car's steering and handling.

The team at **Auto Medics** did not disappoint. Armed with both a presentation and hands-on demonstrations, **Athee Goriee**, owner, and **Andrew Gross**, service advisor, guided the group through the geometries of automotive alignments and explained how each suspension component affects handling. They defined the jargon we so often hear but may not fully understand: terms such as **caster**, **camber**, **toe-in**, and **toe-out**, as well as parts such as **control arms and bushings**. They also covered how each of these relates to the way tires interact with the road—and what can go wrong when things are not properly set. The discussion also explored how each setting plays a role in our perception of how a car “feels” on the road. There was a lot to talk about!

The day began with an informative presentation that clearly illustrated what each term means in relation to a car. From there, attendees had the opportunity to look underneath a vehicle and see the suspension parts that had been discussed. The **Auto Medics** team also demonstrated the latest alignment technology, including their sophisticated optical scanning rack used for full four-wheel alignments.

For those of us with a few years on our driver's licenses, the phrase “**front-end alignment**” may sound familiar, with little attention historically given to the rear. But as suspensions have advanced over the years, rear alignments have become much more important. The days of solid-beam rear axles are fewer and farther between. And although many drivers may not think much about it, I believe everyone has enjoyed the benefits of these improvements.

Athee and Andrew did not limit the discussion to street cars. They also explored alignments for track and race cars. They presented a track car they were adjusting using mechanical alignment tools. For full-blown track or race cars, the concepts remain the same, but the goals and available adjustments can be very different. Aftermarket suspensions often allow for greater adjustability and a sharper focus on making the tires perform in a high-performance environment.

Typical Porsche road suspensions are remarkable pieces of engineering, balancing road comfort with sport driving capability. If you have not yet had the chance to truly experience your Porsche in a setting designed for spirited driving, I highly recommend attending one of our **High Performance Driver Education** events. I promise the experience will take your appreciation for your sports car's handling to a whole new level.

For dedicated track cars, however, road comfort is often sacrificed in favor of maximum performance. Settings such as camber and spring rates may be pushed to levels that would make a street car too darty for regular use, but they allow the tires to work more effectively at higher speeds on track. These differences were highlighted, and the parts that allow for these adjustments were covered in depth. It was truly fascinating for many of us track junkies.

I would like to thank the staff at **Auto Medics** for hosting this excellent event. I hope those who attended came away with a greater appreciation for everything involved in keeping cars moving in the right direction. The technical skill and deep understanding of suspension geometry can make the difference between a truly good alignment and one that merely falls within factory specifications.

## Auto Medics Tech Session (continued)

As one of our HPDE sponsors, **Auto Medics** is a perfect fit for the club. Whether working on road cars or track cars, their team clearly demonstrated that they understand what each requires—and helped educate us on the important differences. ■



As one of our HPDE sponsors, Auto Medics is a perfect fit for the club



The day began with an informative presentation that clearly illustrated what each term means in relation to a car.



Athee Goriee, owner, and Andrew Gross, service advisor, guided the group through the geometries of automotive alignments and explained how each suspension component affects handling



Athee and Andrew presented a track car they were adjusting using mechanical alignment tools



## SEM/PCA Photo of the Month

Every month our private Facebook group located at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3158359877529645> hosts a photo contest for SEM /PCA members.

Stephen purchased it from a Florida Porsche dealership in 2023, relying only on text-message photos and videos before wiring the money. The dealership then placed it in an enclosed transporter and had it delivered.

*"Before buying this GT3, I had never driven or even ridden in one. I took a chance and hoped I would like it. Needless to say, I fell in love with it immediately—from its performance to its feel and handling.*

*It is difficult to describe just how great this car is with words. You really just need to drive one to understand exactly what I'm talking about.*

*I do take this car to the track, so I recently added a half lightweight roll cage, 6-point racing safety harnesses, OEM Porsche carbon-fiber racing seats, a carbon-fiber hood, carbon-fiber mirrors, and a carbon-fiber rear wing with decklid to make the car safer and lighter.*

*I would like to thank everyone for choosing my vehicle as the Car of the Month for the Facebook page. I am very honored."*

This is Stephen Johnson's 2018 Porsche 911 991.2 4.0 GT3 with a PDK transmission and 14,000 miles currently on the odometer.

Join SEM PCA on social media

Private Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3158359877529645>

Public Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/southeastmichiganpca>

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DE Chair Steve Carbarry - [DE@sem.pca.org](mailto:DE@sem.pca.org) - (586) 242-6437  
Chief Instructor Marc Molzon - [Marc@sem.pca.org](mailto:Marc@sem.pca.org) - (248) 882-1759

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ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY HOWARD GILSON - SAFETY CHAIR

# Spring Tour

On May 16, the Southeast Michigan PCA met at Porsche Detroit North for our annual Spring Tour. This year's event brought a few challenges, including a water main break and constantly changing Michigan weather.

That morning, I woke up to a text from my father mentioning the heavy rain he was having at his house. About 10 minutes later, the same heavy rain reached me. I remember replying, "Wait five minutes, the weather will change — this is Michigan after all." Although the heavy morning rain had some participants worried, it did help clean off the roads for our tour.

A light rain, more of a mist, continued to fall as cars started pulling into Porsche Detroit North. Despite the weather, 47 cars gathered and lined the parking lot. Seventy-eight participants enjoyed Porsche Detroit North's hospitality as they socialized and browsed each other's cars, along with the dealership's inventory. By the time we held our drivers' meeting and Porsche Detroit North's door prize raffle, the rain had stopped and the sun was trying to come out.

As we were getting the lead cars lined up and ready to go, one of the leads had a mechanical issue with his Boxster, making it inoperable. Luckily, we were at the best possible place for a Porsche to have a problem: a Porsche dealer. Even though it was a Saturday afternoon, Porsche Detroit North was able to take in the car and provide a loaner until repairs could be completed.



Porsche Detroit North

## Spring Tour (continued)

The tour turned out great. The weather cleared, and we even had convertibles with their tops down. The route was led by five tour leads, with one lead unfortunately unable to continue, along with a sweeper. We traveled through northern Oakland County, passing many lakes and enjoying plenty of curvy roads. The tour ended at Johnny Blacks on Dixie Highway in Waterford for dinner.

The original Johnny Blacks in Orion Township, where we had planned to go, was affected by the Rochester water main break. As a result, we had to change locations and alter

the tour route during the week of the event. The Waterford restaurant was ready to handle more than 60 members for dinner. We had a large table on the balcony, with several groups of four and a few other members seated throughout the restaurant. The food and service were great, making it a wonderful way to end a fantastic Spring Tour.

Thanks to Chris Bohr, Kyle Bohr, Dennis Denyer, Kyle Robie, Andrew Vincent, Eric Wecker, Bobby Tarchinski, Mark VanderEyck, and all the volunteers who helped make another Spring Tour a success. ■



SEM Spring Tour Drivers Meeting & Door Prizes provided by Porsche Detroit North.



Back: Roger Tayloe and Denise Marie  
In the Front: Andrew Auffenberg and Kelly Cathryn



New Members enjoying dinner.

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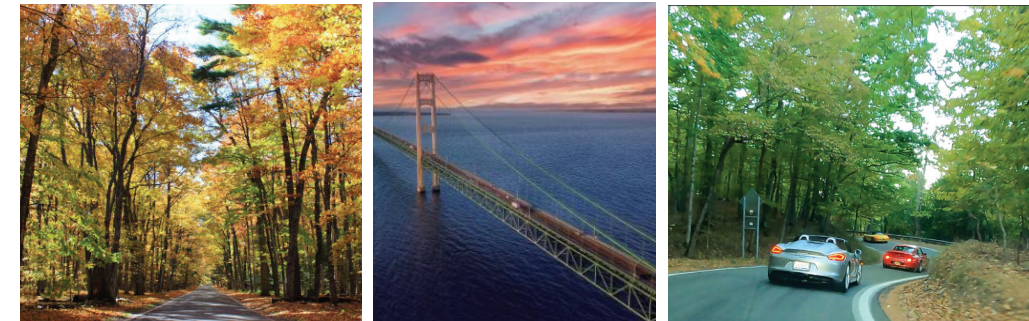
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## 2026 Up North Overnight Driving Tour

**October 2-4, 2026**

This year's second SEM/PCA overnight driving tour is taking us to the up north areas of our state. This is our fun and scenic driving tour.

We will leave on Friday, October 2nd, heading to Mackinaw City. On the second day, we will drive to Traverse City through the Tunnel of Trees in the morning. Lunch in Traverse City and then head out for more backroads driving. We will check into our hotel in Traverse City after dinner.



Group hotel rate is available. Booking instructions would be provided upon registration.

Registration for this event: <https://clubregistration.net/events/signUp.cfm/event/16419>



For more information, please contact:

- ☐ Chris Bohr    [chris@sem.pca.org](mailto:chris@sem.pca.org)      (248) 986-8834
- ☐ Howard Gilson ([hgilson@gilsonmotorsports.com](mailto:hgilson@gilsonmotorsports.com))      (248) 770-1788

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**FOR SALE: 1955 PORSCHE 356 SPEEDSTER REPLICA:**



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**“It’s not just the cars,  
 it’s the people”**

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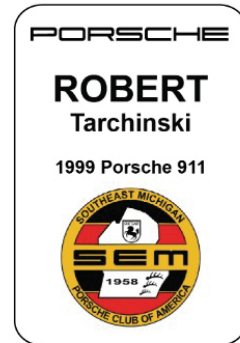
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### PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA RECOGNIZES MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES IN FIVE-YEAR INCREMENTS.

Five- to 20-year anniversary materials are available **upon request**. You can request anniversary materials by clicking [www.pca.org/anniversary](http://www.pca.org/anniversary) (must be logged onto PCA website to use link). You will receive a letter, certificate and decal commemorating your anniversary.

Materials for 25- to 60-year anniversaries are mailed **quarterly** depending on your anniversary date. Members celebrating these anniversaries will receive the following:

- 25 years - Letter, Decal, Certificate, Pin
- 30 and 35 years - Letter, Decal, Certificate
- 40 and 45 years - Letter, Decal, Certificate, Name Badge
- 50, 55 and 60 years- Letter, Decal, Certificate, Pin and Name Badge

If you have not received your anniversary recognition from Porsche Club of America, please send an email to [anniversary@pca.org](mailto:anniversary@pca.org) requesting your materials and be sure to include your membership number and full name.

## Welcome New Members:

Clark C. Barrett  
Brian Ehresman  
Matthew Jay and Quinn Farrell  
Scott Jones  
Michael S. Nimmons

Thiago Genaro Nogueira  
Jason Woodward  
James Francis Zender  
Jay Zheng  
Salvatore Anthony Zombo

### SEM/PCA Member Anniversaries - June 2026

YR	Name(s)	YR	Name(s)	YR	Name(s)
52	C Lane & Marilyn Mally	7	David & Linda Cordier	2	Paul Gramer
50	Dennis & Susan Denyer	7	Mark & Teresa Fletcher	2	Satish George
38	Robert & Marilyn Amano	6	Anthony Mona	2	Todd Gustke
30	Robert Count & Nancy Ellis	6	Michael Scheid & William Bass	1	Adam Vincens
28	Steven & Christopher Nofar	6	Robert Somma Jr. & Carole McConnell	1	Andy & Nicole Hamley
27	Patrick McFall & Heather Sinclair			1	Bernard Paige
26	James & John Garner	5	Adrian Nalichowski	1	Brian Mann
25	Ralph & Julie Kandt	5	Kal Sennerikuppam & Randy Lefebvre	1	Dennis & Stacy Ahrens
24	Tim Robinson			1	Gregory Constant
21	Greg & Stacey Dyer	5	Mike & Connor Deighan	1	Gregory Raiford
21	James & Gerald Saelens	5	Nick DeGalan	1	Jonathan Patty
15	Christopher & Mary Martella	5	Richard Creagh	1	Josh Vrabec
15	John Keen	5	Steve Rohelier	1	Luis Garcia
15	Michael & Alissa Jacobs	5	Vicki & Stephen Ristagno	1	Paul Snyder
11	Michael Ugval	4	Adrian Foca	1	Trina & John Barta
11	Wayne & Sheana Colonnello	4	Andrew & Eric Auffenberg	1	Walt Zimmerman
11	William Roscoe	4	Christopher Parker		
10	Dennis & Myriam Hessell	4	Frank Schlampp		
10	Gregory & Shu-Fen Szarama	4	Lorenzo Malene		
9	Charles & Clare Ronaldson Smith	3	Daniel & Michele Morrell		
9	Chuck Schmidt	3	Jayson & Erin Field		
9	James Friedman & Jeffrey Robbins	3	Nicholas Toben & Ann Chen		
9	Jason Dworin	3	Raunav Chitkara & Sai Nischal		
9	Laurence Buckley	3	Richard Marquette		
8	Dan Gutfreund	2	Angelo & Dawn Mazzola		
8	Edward & Nancy Vermillion	2	Bill Fisher		
8	Richard & Brad Simtob	2	Corey Seitz		
7	Bruce & Victoria Bull	2	Irwin Futernick & Julie Ritten		

# SEM Business Meeting Minutes\* for May 7, 2026 by Fred Young

MAY 7, 2026

In attendance: Board Members: Howard Gilson, Fred Young, Lisa Molzon, Jason Nixon, Bobby Tarchinski, David Sculati and Chris Bohr. Officer: John Grabowski.

Absent with notice: Mark Molzon and Steve Carbary.

Guests: Michael Cohen and Mark VanderEyck

**Call to Order:** 7:00 p.m. by President Lisa Molzon.

**Minutes:** Moved by B.T. and C.B. to approve the April minutes. Motion passed.

**President Items:** Lisa Molzon - Due to the resignation of Cedric Alexanian, it was moved by Chris Bohr and Howard Gilson to appoint David Sculati as a board member to fill out the remainder of his term. Motion passed.

It was also moved by Howard Gilson and Chris Bohr to remove Jim Williams as treasurer and replace him with Lisa Molzon, Chris Bohr and David Sculati as signers on the checking account. Voting in the affirmative were: Howard Gilson, Fred Young, Lisa Molzon, Jason Nixon, Robert Tarcinski, David Sculati and Chris Bohr. Motion passed.

**Financial:** David Sculati - The tax returns are filed. It was moved by H.G. and C.B. to approve the April Financials. Motion passed.

**Membership:** Bobby Tarchinski - Membership is at 1338 with 877 primary and 461 associate members.

**Insurance:** Steve Carbary - Needed Spring Tour and Auto Medics Tech Session.

**P-4:** John Grabowski - He went over content for the June P4.

**Webmaster:** Jason Nixon - Up to date.

## OLD BUSINESS:

**April 11: SIM Racing:** Chris Bohr -

44 attended across 4 sessions. Everyone is looking forward to next winter's events.

**April 15: \*Parade Advance Registration:** Howard Gilson - Parking may be an issue. 18 SEM members are signed up to attend.

**April 18: Munk's Tech Session:** Bobby Tarchinski -

It was a solid event with great attendance.

**April 19: DE-101 at M1:** Marc Molzon -

It was very engaging with 12-15 people held in the Guild Club.

**April 25: New Member Gathering and**

**Membership Dinner:** Bobby Tarchinski -

Well attended with a great presentation and an abundance of door prizes.

**May 9: DE #1 at M1:** Marc Molzon -

34 are signed up along with 23 instructors.

**May 16 am: Auto Medics Tech Session:** Marc Molzon -

Looking for a good turnout.

**May 16: Spring Tour:** Chris Bohr -

There is a wait list for dinner with over 68 signed up. The route and restaurant are set.

**June 5: DE #2 at Waterford:** - Steve Carbary

6 are signed up so far.

**June 27: Solstice Tour:** Lisa Molzon -

Taking registrations.

**June 28: Waterford Family Day:** Fred Young -

Looking forward to the event.

**July 26: Detailing Session:** Howard Gilson

It will be a low key Cars and Coffee.

**July 18-25: Progressive Dinner:** Lisa Molzon -

She is determining the route and coordinating the event along with Denise and Roger Tayloe.

**July 30-2: Overnight Tour -**

**Tail of the Dragon/Back of the Dragon:** Chris Bohr -

An email was sent out with guidelines for the 2500 mile trip.

**August 16: Picnic and Concours:** Howard Gilson -

He is working on registration.

## NEW BUSINESS:

**Event Reports:** Needed for the Ypsilanti Auto Museum.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 p.m. - Moved to adjourn by C.B. and H.G. Motion passed.

**Next Meeting Location:** Gilson Motorsports -

Thursday, June 4, 2026

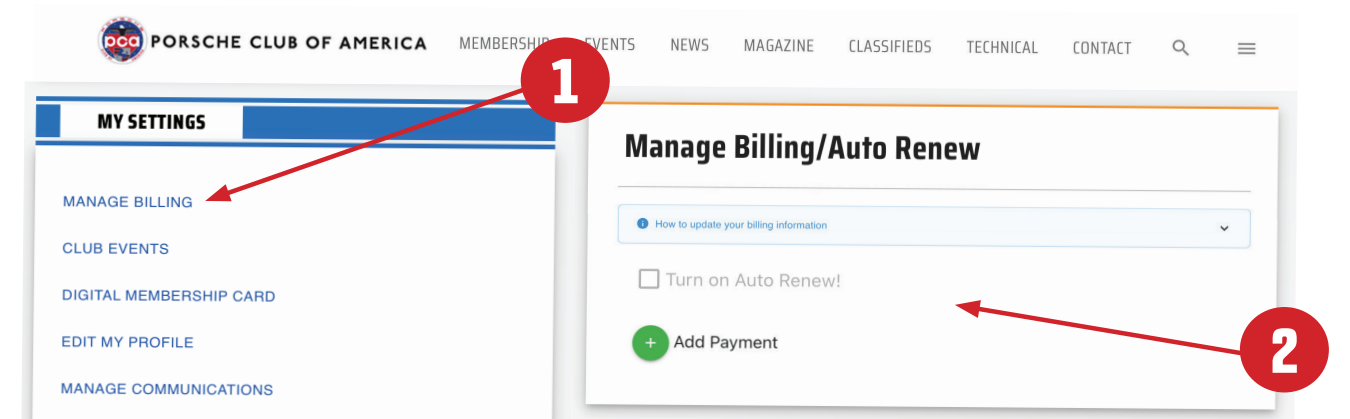
**\*Not an SEMPCA event.**

Respectfully Submitted: Fred Young - Rev. 5-10-26

\*Subject to ratification at the next Board Meeting.



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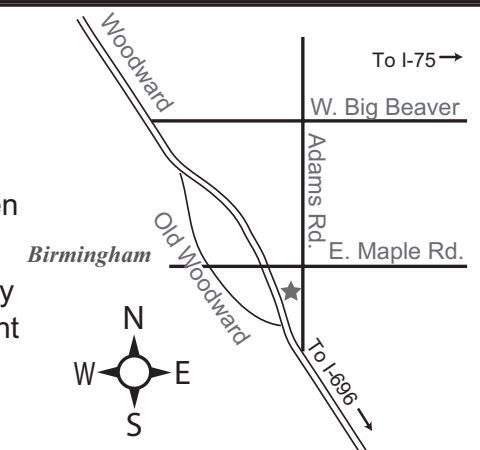
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