



# CHEVY CHATTER

[www.lmrvcva.org](http://www.lmrvcva.org)



LMR Vintage Chevrolet Club founded in 1965

## Central Meet did not disappoint LMR attendees

**T**he ten LMR Club members who attended the VCC 54th Central Meet in Elmira, New York, had a memorable experience.

Since this area of New York is located in the Finger Lakes Region, members enjoyed scenic tours and tasted great wines from the popular vineyards.

One of the tours was to the Corning Museum of Glass, which contains one of the largest and most valuable glass exhibits in the world. Members watched glass blowing demonstrations and learned the history of glass making from household glassware to scientific applications.

An evening picnic was set up at Eldridge Park, which caters to families

and features one of the oldest, fastest carousels, still working with a ring feeder.

Another driving tour was to the Windmill Market, which includes craft merchandise as well as fruits and vegetables, much of it grown by the Amish.

And for the guys, the best part of touring was the famous Watkins Glen Sports Car Race Track which included a route through part of downtown and many steep hills in the countryside. And lastly, there was an interesting stop at the Watkins Glen sports car archive/research museum.



(above) Darrell Dowdy takes a break from checking his Cabriolet.

(upper right) Lloyd and Margie Henige stand proudly by their 1939 Master Pick-Up.

(lower right) Andy Mehl checks his 1984 Monte Carlo engine.



### Judging Awards

LMR members who participated in the VCCA 54th Central Meet, held in Elmira, New York, are listed below.

**Andy Jurski:** 1972 Monte Carlo  
HPOCF Mini & Best of Show HPOCF

**Tim & Pat Mehl, Andy & Bekka Mehl:**  
1984 Monte Carlo  
Display Only

**Lloyd & Margie Henige:** 1939 Master  
Pick-Up  
Preservation Mini

**Darrell Dowdy:** 1928 Nat'l AB Cabriolet  
Convertible  
Preservation Mini

**Mike McFarland:** 1954 Bel Air 2 Door  
Hardtop  
1st Junior

**Bill Anderson:** 1932 Chevy Confederate  
4 Door  
HPOCF Board

**Pat Mehl:** recognition - five year  
participant on the judging crew

**August 15-19, 2017** (Tues - Sat.)

13th Annual 5 Day Back to the Bricks Cruise & Car Show, Flint, MI. Saturday, August 19, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. is the huge vehicle display.



**September 10-15, 2017**

VCCA Six Cylinder Tour in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Host hotel is Comfort Inn in Denver, PA. Contact Chuck Gibson at 609-221-5435 or email [ORGNTNR@aol.com](mailto:ORGNTNR@aol.com). This area has the oldest continuous Amish settlements in the USA.



## from the driver's seat . . . Bill Anderson, LMR director

Wow! Where did July go? July was one of those months you could tour to your preferred car shows and not be affiliated with a given club. But for those of us club members who participated in the Central Meet in New York's Finger Lakes region, July was memorable. My adventure was quite an experience driving my 1932 Sedan 500 miles each way, touring the less traveled countryside. Lots of corn and soybeans in Ohio, but nice roads most of the way. I missed a few turns and added some miles but met some nice people while asking for directions. Saw the Channel Lock tool factory in Meadville, PA, but it was not quite what I expected: an old time factory building quality tools. And I did not have time for the tour.

However, I did have one unexpected gasoline stop at the Meadville Airport when PA Route 6 suddenly decided that gas stations need not be planted on every country intersection. Ask me about begging to buy gasoline at the airport sometime. Anyhow, the 54th Central Meet had 75 cars entered and LMR was well represented with 10 members and their cars.

Quickly following the Central Meet is the Summer Picnic Tour, August 5, beginning in Saranac at Barb and Mike Sparks home for breakfast and then touring to Gilmore's Red Barns Spectacular. Hopefully you will be able to join us for that activity even though the deadline for the sign-up has passed, since you can still tour with us and enjoy all the activities including the barns of cars and the swap meet. You just can't be in on the judging.

Consensus at the Director's discussion at the Central Meet was that LMR is due to host the Central Meet in 2020 or 2021 as other Central Region friends firm up their plans to be the ones hosting 2019 or 2020. More info to follow. Just a heads up for LMR to consider its options for hosting a central meet on the western side of Michigan in the not too distant future. Gilmore/Kalamazoo area holds attractive tour and venue opportunities too.

**Don't forget about Back to the Bricks August 19. Our LMR group is once again at 2nd Street, just west of the Saginaw Street intersection. Just a reminder that we need a list of attendees to give Bob Sovis so that parking passes can be issued and mailed to you. Contact Bob at [rlsopp@yahoo.com](mailto:rlsopp@yahoo.com) or 810-629-7790 by August 12.**

For those gear heads among us, the Woodward Avenue Drag Races, hosted by Road Kill Nights, sponsored by Dodge will be August 12, a week before Back to the Bricks/WWDream Cruise weekend. This free event, located adjacent to Pontiac's M1 Concourse, will undoubtedly include exhibitions by the new 808 HP Dodge Demon, which does wheelies and runs the 1/4 mile in under 10 seconds.

Other street rumors relate that the Eldon Hostetler Collection/Museum donated by Shipshewana, IN., may be closing due to funding difficulties. It is reputed to possess the world's largest collection of Hudsons.

Again, a reminder. We will be repeating our 2016 end of year calendar, and meeting sequence to remind everyone of the banquet and awards on November 4 at Grand Blanc's Brick Street Bar & Grill. Watch the meeting calendar in the fall since October gets really busy.

### 2017 Lower Michigan Region Vintage Chevrolet Club of America Officers

Director:	Bill Anderson	<a href="mailto:old50grit@comcast.net">old50grit@comcast.net</a>	Sr. Board member:	Dave Rickabus	<a href="mailto:daphyrick@yahoo.com">daphyrick@yahoo.com</a>
Asst.Dir:	Brian Granger	<a href="mailto:grangerb59@yahoo.com">grangerb59@yahoo.com</a>	Sr. Board member:	Bob Sovis	<a href="mailto:rlsopp@yahoo.com">rlsopp@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary:	Mike McCarty	<a href="mailto:michaelrrrmccarty@gmail.com">michaelrrrmccarty@gmail.com</a>	Sr. Board member:	Verle Wetherwax	<a href="mailto:sharonwetherwax@comcast.com">sharonwetherwax@comcast.com</a>
Treasurer:	Pat Mehl	<a href="mailto:Jakobs.Grama@gmail.com">Jakobs.Grama@gmail.com</a>	Jr. Board member:	Bruce Granger	<a href="mailto:brucedgranger@yahoo.com">brucedgranger@yahoo.com</a>
Historian:	Bruce & Brian Granger	<a href="mailto:brucedgranger@yahoo.com">brucedgranger@yahoo.com</a>	Jr. Board member:	Tim Reinke	<a href="mailto:trreinke@gmail.com">trreinke@gmail.com</a>
Sunshine:	Marge Henige	<a href="mailto:mhenige57@yahoo.com">mhenige57@yahoo.com</a>	Jr. Board member:	Andy West	<a href="mailto:andywest@tmiworldwide.com">andywest@tmiworldwide.com</a>
Ex-Officio Board member:	Mike McCarty	<a href="mailto:michaelrrrmccarty@gmail.com">michaelrrrmccarty@gmail.com</a>			

Chevy Chatter: Barbara Sparks [chevy chattermi@gmail.com](mailto:chevy chattermi@gmail.com)  
PO BOX 353 Saranac, MI 48881

Membership: Mary Samulski [lmrvccamembership@gmail.com](mailto:lmrvccamembership@gmail.com)  
LMR VCCA Membership  
PO BOX 303, Imlay City, MI 48444

The purpose of the VCCA is to promote interest in the preservation and restoration of vintage Chevrolet manufactured vehicles 25 years old or older. Ownership of a vintage Chevrolet vehicle is not a prerequisite for membership. Lower Michigan Region dues are \$20 per year. To become a member, an applicant must be a National VCCA member in good standing. Yearly national dues are \$40.

# You never know when you're going to find the right car...

Sometimes the best finds happen on a whim. That is exactly what happened to LMR members Gary and Pam Mehl of Battle Creek, MI.

Early in 1990, Gary and Pam decided to stop into Bud Kouts Chevrolet dealership, now known as Feldman Chevrolet, located in Lansing, to look over the used cars. "It being a Sunday afternoon, we wouldn't have to deal with sales people," Gary remarked. "After cruising the used car lot and not seeing anything of interest, we were leaving when I spotted a white Caprice parked next to the service department.

As we were crossing the street in our older 1981 Caprice, I noted that the parked Caprice had no license plate and it was a LS Brougham. So we decided to come back on Monday morning to ask some questions."

When they returned the next day, they talked to an older salesman who said that the car was recently traded but not been detailed yet. "When we asked if we could take the car for a drive, he told us that when Bud Kouts sold the dealership he made an agreement with the new owners:

Mrs. Kouts was to get a brand new, fully loaded Caprice every year as part of the deal."

And the interior, which the Mehls thought was a tan vinyl, turned out to be leather! The only option not checked off was a sun roof. The salesman related that Mrs. Kouts took delivery of the car Thanksgiving weekend in 1988 to drive to Florida. When she returned to Michigan, she traded it on a 1990 vehicle during Christmas week 1989.



(left) The interior of the Caprice looks just like it came out of the showroom. (far left and below) And both the exterior of the front and back ends are rust free. Pam and Gary Mehl enjoy taking their original vehicle to meets.

"I dickered for some time and made a deal for the car, which had never been titled before," added Mehl. Even though the car had several thousand miles on it, the Mehls were

the first registered owners of that Caprice. It served as the family's transportation for five years and then was relegated to summer time duty after that.

"The Caprice received an HPOCF award at the Southeastern Meet in Charleston in May of 2016 and the HPOCF tab at the Central Meet in Maumee in 2016."

Now 27 years later, the Mehls are glad that they stopped to check out the used car lot at Bud Kouts. The Caprice has turned out to be a real gem.

## Welcome new members

**Joseph & Karen Scheuring**  
 2796 Bent Tree Drive  
 Dexter, MI 48130  
 They own a 1933 4-door  
 6-Cylinder in restoration

**Robert Jennings & Ruth Riedeman**  
 3191 S Dehmel Road  
 Frankenmuth, MI 48734  
 They own a 1960 Corvair  
 700 Coupe 6-Cylinder

**Gary & Tracy Fisher**  
 9023 Newcastle Court  
 Grand Blanc, MI 48439



**Gary Mehl owns a 1989 Caprice LS Brougham and relates the story (see above) behind his ownership of the vehicle.**

***Make plans for the Summer Picnic & Tour Saturday, August 5, 2017***

**Visit one of Michigan's Treasures . . .  
The Gilmore Car Museum during its Red Barns Spectacular!**

**Breakfast Get-Together begins around 9 a.m.**

Mike & Barb Sparks  
5232 Morrison Lake Road  
Saranac, MI 48881  
Phone: 616-633-5978 or 616-633-5980

**From the Flint area to our home:**

- I69 to I96 West towards Grand Rapids
- Take Exit 64 (Saranac, Lake Odessa Exit)
- Turn right (north) at end of ramp and then left (west) onto Grand River Ave.
- Drive 4 miles past both Herbruck Chicken/Egg signs to Morrison Lake Road (Kountry Korner's Party Store is at intersection)
- Turn right (north) onto Morrison Lake Rd for 2 miles. You will go through 2 curves and our property will be on left side (west) at corner of Morrison Lake Road and MacArthur Road

**From the Detroit area to our home:**

- I96 West towards Grand Rapids
- Take Exit 64 (Saranac, Lake Odessa Exit)
- Turn right (north) at end of ramp and then left (west) onto Grand River Ave.
- Drive 4 miles past both Herbruck Chicken/Egg signs to Morrison Lake Road (Kountry Korner's Party Store is at intersection)
- Turn right (north) onto Morrison Lake Rd for 2 miles. You will go through 2 curves and our property will be on left side (west) at corner of Morrison Lake Road and MacArthur Road

**From the Kalamazoo/Hickory Corners Area**

- M43 North to Village of Woodland
- Turn left (north) on M66 toward Ionia
- Take I96 West to Exit 64 (Saranac Lake Odessa)
- Turn right (north) at end of ramp and then left (west) onto Grand River Ave.
- Drive 4 miles past both Herbruck Chicken/Egg signs to Morrison Lake Road (Kountry Korner's Party Store is at intersection)
- Turn right (north) onto Morrison Lake Rd for 2 miles. You will go through 2 curves and our property will be on left side (west) at corner of Morrison Lake Road and MacArthur Road

**From the Grand Rapids/Holland Area**

- I96 East to Exit 59 (Clarksville/Saranac)
- Turn left (north) for half mile, turn right (east) onto Grand River Avenue for 2 miles
- Turn left (north) onto Morrison Lake Road for 2 miles (Kountry Korner's Party Store is at intersection)
- You will go through 2 curves and our property will be on left side (west) at corner of Morrison Lake Road and MacArthur Road

**From Mt. Pleasant area or alternate Flint area route**

- US 127 South to exit 109, or M57 East, for 26 miles
- Turn left (south) on M66 for 14 miles to Ionia
- Turn right onto M21 (west) for 7 miles
- Turn left (south) at Saranac Corner, cross Grand River bridge. Don't blink: downtown is 1 block long!
- Continue south through Saranac on Bridge St.
- Continue past Dollar General Store, up the hill, where Bridge St. becomes Morrison Lake Rd. Drive less than a mile south and our property is on right (west) side of road. See Gray Morton Bldg.

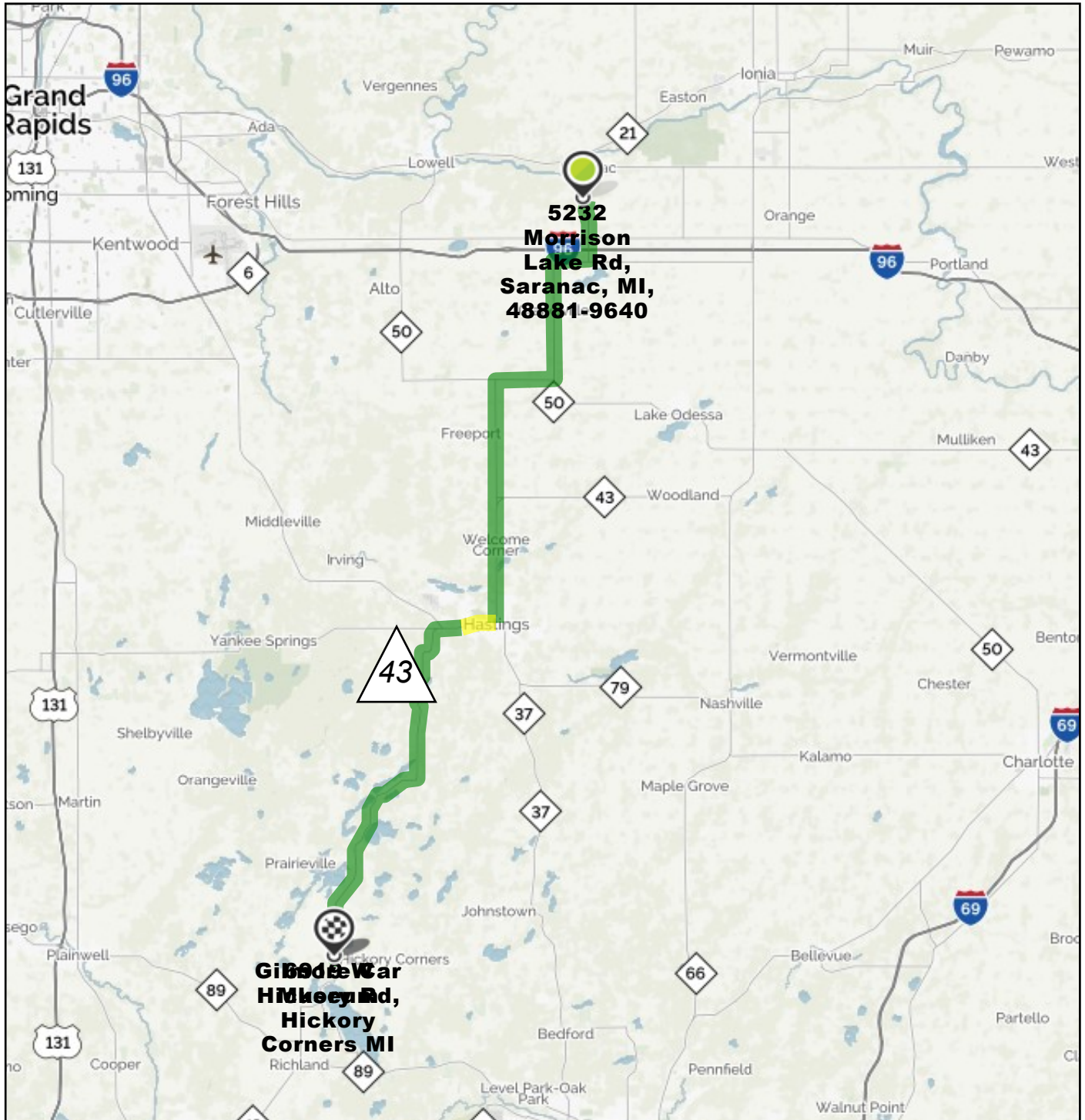
**Directions to Gilmore from Sparks' home**

- Drive 3 mile south on Morrison Lake Road.
- Turn right (west) at Portland Road for 1.5 miles.
- At stop sign turn left (south) onto Nash Hwy. Drive 5 miles, including through the country town of Clarksville. At stop sign turn right (west) onto MI-50/Thompson Road and drive 2.5 miles.
- Turn left (south) onto Hastings Road for 2 miles
- Turn right (east) onto County Hwy 601 for 3 miles.
- As you enter the city of Hastings, County Hwy 601 becomes North Broadway Road. Drive a third of a mile.
- Turn slight right onto North Broadway St/MI-43 and follow M-43 for 5 miles.
- Turn right onto West State St/MI-43/MI-37/County Hwy-430 and continue to follow MI-43 for 19 miles. Really pretty drive along the lakes!
- Make a left turn onto West Hickory Rd/County Hwy-400/County Hwy 400P for a tenth of a mile. You will see the red barns and buildings that make up Gilmore Car Museum.
- Gilmore Car Museum address is 6865 West Hickory Road,

**You are welcome to join us for breakfast at our home and the tour following. You just can't be enrolled in the judging car aspect at this time.**

**Please remember folding/camp chairs for your party for the picnic at Gilmore!!**

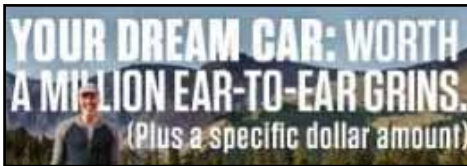
*Make plans for the Summer Picnic & Tour Saturday, August 5, 2017*



# Autos, Parts & Services

LMR Chevrolet Club members may place personal ads free of charge; professional businesses \$5

**For Sale: 5 15"x5 Chevy passenger wheels**, 4 handholds, 6 bolt holes and all hubcap tabs in place. Some minor rust. Also a box of parts, 1938 water pump, 1934 generator, 1937 steering gear and so on. Asking \$50. You pick up. Contact Carl Eggers, St. Clair Shores 586-294-4856



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**For Sale: 1931 Chevy 2-Door Sedan Deluxe** with rear luggage rack, changed to unleaded gas. Asking \$7,000 OBO. Call Marc Milburn 989-422-3262 (landline) or 989-202-5020 (cell); PO Box 430 Houghton Lake, Michigan 48629.

**Wanted: For 1934 Chevy Master 4 Door:** Cross chassis brake shaft with bearings. Contact Mike McCarty VCCA#45888 at 248-528-1273 Troy, MI

**For Sale: Pole barn crammed** with truck parts 1967-69, new fenders, doors, grills, hoods still wrapped; a shed full of other car parts; 8N Ford tractor & 3 point equipment. Contact Michelle Arvoy-Corn 734-657-8557 or email: mikwah@gmail.com (Also houses in Swartz Creek & Ann Arbor for sale.)

**Wanted: 1933 Chevrolet Standard CC 3 window coupe.** Stock. Must be complete and running. Contact Robert Pence at 989-745-3663 at 600 W. Jackpine Loop, Mio, Michigan 48647.

**For Sale: 1969 Chevelle SS 396** hard top, real SS automatic buckets, console, SS wheels, nice driver, \$32,500. **1975 Buick LeSabre**, 23,000 actual miles, original tires, like new, \$21,500. **1960 Impala** 2 door hard top, 29,000 original miles 6 cylinder 3 speed, white with turquoise interior, all documentation, \$25,000. **1966 Caprice** 2 door hardtop, rebuilt engine & transmission, triple black, VCCA preservation car, \$18,000. **1964 Pontiac Catalina** 2 door hardtop, real nice, 389 automatic, new battery & heater core, \$19,500. **1960 Nash Metropolitan convertible** South Carolina car fully restored yellow & white, \$20,000. **1957 Corvette 327 4 speed**, red with white coves, non-matching numbers, great cruiser, \$55,000. Mike McFarland 810-790-1812. **Discount to LMR VCCA members.**

**SARANAQ, MI 48881  
PO BOX 353  
CHEVY CHATTER**