

Lower Michigan Region

CHEVY



CHATTER

Vintage Chevrolet Club of America

SEPTEMBER 2013

50TH CENTRAL MEET



1914 "L" Light Six Owner Pinky & Joyce Randall

1913 Chevrolet Classic Six Courtesy of Verle Wetherwax and the "Friends of Sloan"



Friday Night Cruise at the Blue Water Bridge – Port Huron, MI

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LOWER MICHIGAN REGION - VCCA – 2013 CALENDAR of EVENTS

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

15th Golden Memories @ Sloan Museum and Regular Business Meeting

8TH - 12TH Hershey
 17th – 18th Mothball Tour & Reg. Business Meeting - Nomination of Officers

17th LMR Planning Meeting Reg. Business Meeting. – Layton Corners, Junction of Hope Restaurant

WELCOME: The Lower Michigan Region, VCCA, welcome new Region member Romona White.

Directors Message Sept. 2013

This has been another very busy month. It started out with a Board Meeting on Aug. 6th with a respectable number in attendance. There were several items brought up and discussed. Then in the Flint and surrounding areas, we celebrated Back-to-the-Bricks for 2 weeks. One of the best parts of that, it was all free.....you can't beat free! It was absolutely a fantastic time with entertainment, food, and hundreds and hundreds of fabulous cars. On the final day, Sat. the 18th, we had a fair showing of LMR members. That day we hung our banner, set up a canopy, and gave away G & D's, plus VCCA and LMR applications. Only time will tell how many new members will materialize from this.

By the time you read this, we will have had another Board Meeting which was held on Aug. 26th in Lansing. Dick Oldenburg wants to retire from doing the newsletter. While we certainly dislike the fact of loosing this talented, hard working guy, he has done far more than his share. From the bottom of our hearts, a roaring thank you, Dick! That was the sad news, now on to the glad news! We are so fortunate to have another member step forward to keep our newsletter going; a huge thank you to Barbara Sparks.

A reminder for the Golden Oldies car show, Sun. Sept. 15th at the Sloan Museum in Flint; another free-be .All vehicles have to be at least 50 years old. We will also have a regular meeting held there at the Sloan at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully,

Verle Wetherwax, Director

VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA

LOWER MICHIGAN REGION

Board Meeting - Tuesday, August 6, 2013
Clio, MI

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF LMR, Called by Verle Wetherwax at 1:30PM at the home of Verle Wetherwax.

Members Present: Verle Wetherwax, Director
Brian Granger, Assistant Director
Pinky Randall, Ex-Officio
Leon Eiseman, Treasurer
Gary Mehl, Sr. Board Member
Dennis Clark, Sr. Board Member
Ken Turnwald, Jr. Board Member
Michael Sparks, Jr. Board Member

ABSENT: Jerry VanBrunt, Sr. Board Member
Jim Morningstar, Jr. Board Member (excused)
Marjorie Henige, Secretary
Dick Oldenburg, Newsletter Editor

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike McFarland & Mary, Central Meet Chairpersons
Spouses of officers and directors/invited guests

Director Wetherwax appointed Pinky Randall to act as the Secretary in the absence of Secretary Marge Henige

Director Wetherwax welcomed all of the officer, directors and invited guests for this board meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Treas. Leon Eiseman gave his prepared report and provided copies to the board members with explanations.

Central Meet Report: Mike McFarland and Mary gave a report on the 50th Central Meet held in Port Huron, MI. It was proclaimed to be a most successful Meet and well organized by the Central Meet Committee. Several comments were expressed by those present on the Central Meet under the direction of the Co-Chairmen McFarland, Mary and Linda Harbron. The Board felt that the meet was well executed and the several committies performed their assigned duties and assignments in a professional manner. The chairpersons were commended for a very successful meet and Director Wetherwax for moving all of the programs along in a very fine fashion. Thanks were expressed to all that were a part of the successful meet.

Fall Tour: A report of the Up-coming Fall Tour was outlined by Ass't. Director Brian Granger. The Tour will be October 17th and 18th. More to follow in the CHEVY CHATTER.

Newsletter - CHEVY CHATTER: In the absence of Editor Dick Oldenburg, Director Verle Wetherwax gave a brief report. Oldenburg has expressed himself as liking to retire from his position. Many comments were offered on the great job that Dick has done over the many, many years. Barb Sparks has offered to accept the position of Editor if everything can be worked out. There were many comments made by several of the members and they were all favorable. Discussion followed. A decision will be made at a future meeting. The e-mail and direct mail of the newsletter was briefly discussed also.

Discussion on Accepting the GMC Trucks: Director Wetherwax opened the discussion of accepting the GMC Trucks into the VCCA, as proposed by the National Board. The

National Board has apparently asked for the comments and approval for this proposal in accepting the GMC. Much discussion followed about the pros and cons of the proposal. After further discussion, a motion was made by Brian Granger and supported by Dennis Clark, that the LMR accept the proposal of the GMC Truck to become a part of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America. A short discussion followed. Motion Carried. This will be report back to National for further action.

Old Business: Paul Hammond Award. The award was discussed at somewhat length with members present. It was the consensus of those present that the award had served its purpose for the several years and further discussed that the award might be recessed at this time. Much discussion followed. A Motion was made by Leon Eiseman that our LMR eliminate the Paul Hammond Award and replace it with a new award (name to be determined later) to honor a LMR member, annually, for meritorious service(s) and be awarded at the annual banquet. Motion seconded by Dennis Clark. Motion Carried.

Other Old Business: The subject of DONATIONS was brought to the floor. Discussion followed on Sloan Museum Donations. There were some concerns relative to the work provided by our region, its members, the participation of the LMR and work with the "volunteering", versus our annual contributions. Further discussion followed. After the discussion it was decided that the donation (annual) for the Sloan Museum remain at \$200.00 while the Junction of Hope (meeting place) would receive \$150.00 which was budgeted

Annual Banquet: The Annual Banquet for December was brought up by Ass't. Dir. Brian Granger. He reported on the Lansing location, the meal, the diet portion of the meal and the program.

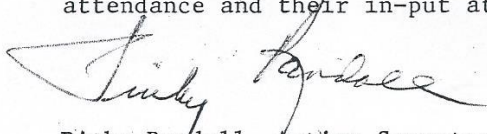
Roundtable Discussion - Board: Wetherwax opened the meeting to a "roundtable" discussion for the board. There were several subject mentioned and others discussed. The newsletter issue was again brought up but nothing was resolved on it. Another item of interest was ROSTERS. This carried some discussion and in-put. It was agreed that we should provide "something" for the membership with a list of members, phone numbers, etc. Membership was another subject. There was concerns about our decreasing numbers in the membership and some possible ways to increase the numbers. The importance of a nominating committee (a part of the board) that should be active all year long. Parties was another part of the discussion and it was the consensus of those present that we might have more social events and tours (etc.).

Other: Wetherwax announced the "BACK TO THE BRICKS" event at Sloan and in Flint. The dates are August 13th through the 17th. He invited ALL to attend and support the activities of the program.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Region will be held at the Sloan Museum on **SEPTEMBER 15th**. He encouraged all to attend. This is also the time for the GOLDEN OLDIES.

Also, plan to attend the Fall Tour. See the information in the CHEVY CHATTER. It promises to be a good one.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:00PM. Director Verle thanked all present for their attendance and their in-put at the meeting.



Pinky Randall, Acting Secretary

50TH Central Meet Successful - by Dick Oldenburg

The 50th Central Meet came to a successful conclusion on Saturday July 27, 2013 after a tense last thirty days resulting from the cancellation by the Host Hotel of its usage. But thanks to Meet Chairman Mike McFarland, Mary Samulski, Judi Stewart from the Blue Water Area Convention & Visitors Center, and a very accommodating Faulkner's Catering Service, a new plan was arranged within 24 hours and as they say, "It's all history now". As a result of what took place during the previous four days, one might think or say that the original Host Hotel did us a favor, it came off that well.

The official start of the 50th Central meet was noon on Wednesday July 24, 2013. Several LMR members arrived early on Tuesday the 23rd to place signs, fill registration bags, set up the raffle display, tentatively lay out the Judging Field, and generally become familiar with the Seaway Terminal. Those early birds were: Mike McFarland, Mary Samulski, Venessa Conrad, Mike Carty, Darrell Dowdy, Ken Turnwald, Dick Oldenburg, Sharon & Verle Wetherwax, Pinky & Joyce Randall, Lois & Bob Gardner, Linda & Don Harbron, and Barb & Jim Morningstar.

Wednesday things became serious as our guests started to arrive at the Seaway Terminal. Jim Morningstar and Ken Turnwald manned the parking lot giving directions to the registration desk and trailer parking area. Mike McCarty took up residency at the Trailer parking area (Some 0.8 miles north of the Seaway Terminal) assisting in that endeavor. Bob Gardner spent his time placing the Motor Homes in their appointed locations. One level below in the Terminal Building Don Harbron was busy placing the Swap Meet Vendors in their indoor vending area while Darrell Dowdy sold Raffle tickets and several ladies manned the Registration desk (Linda Harbron, Sharon Wetherwax, Venessa Conrad, Mary Samulski, Barb Morningstar, Joyce Randall, Lois Gardner). The Rickabus' Dave and Phyllis were busily working out the bugs for their upcoming slide show presentation. Outside overlooking the St Clair River, Verle Wetherwax and Dick Oldenburg were tentatively laying out the Judging field parking assignments.

Wednesday evening was the first official gathering with an Ice Cream Social held at the Seaway Terminal for all 50th Central Meet participants starting at 7:00 PM. A good crowd gathered to renew old friendships and gain new ones.

Thursday morning arrived with our guests becoming fully involved with the proceedings. Hope Dowdy joined husband Darrell selling Raffle tickets. The Miami Valley Region took charge of the Field Entrance activity, making a full day of it. Phyllis Rickabus and Pam Mehl set up and managed the vehicle photographing with Denice Thomas relieving Phyllis mid-morning. Things became noticeably quiet shortly after 11 AM as the majority of the ladies

slipped away from the Terminal to attend the Ladies Luncheon. Rumor was they had a good time and enjoyed themselves and their meal. (Probably had nothing to do with the fact that a part of their

activity was reportedly a Wine Tasting event). Sharon Wetherwax was in charge of the Ladies Luncheon.

Thursday afternoon was unstructured, except for the Field Entrance and Vehicle photographic activities, allowing everyone to prepare their vehicle(s), visit the swap meet area, and generally socialize.

Thursday evening was the planned "Life's a Picnic" gathering at the Seaway Terminal with the majority of the registered guests in attendance. Socializing along with a great indoor picnic (almost, the large doors were open allowing a great view of the river and the passing river traffic). Our caterer did us proud and no complaints were heard. Denice and Rod Thomas made the rounds selling 50/50 raffle tickets. Phyllis and Dave Rickabus were the event Chairmen. When the PA system failed to provide the American and Canadian National Anthems as planned and rehearsed, Phyllis took charge and did it acappella. (We had several of our Canadian friends and neighbors in attendance). As a native of the Port Huron area, Mike McCarty gave a narrative on the history of Port Huron and surrounding area. A group of Lower Michigan Region members put on a little skit with Phyllis directing/explaining what they were doing. Dead pan Dave "Wreck-the-bus", dressed as your local friendly Vehicle Service Write-Up Man, manned the microphone filling in the time between events. In all, it was a fun evening.

Things got underway early Friday morning with the Judges/Tabulators/Runners Breakfast held at the Seaway Terminal starting at 7 AM. By 10 AM all vehicles were positioned in their assigned locations and the Vehicle

Judging started. Eighty vehicles were registered for various

Judging field activities, forty seven for Class Judging, eleven for HPOCF Certification, eight for CDPC Certification, and fourteen as Display. Of the eighty vehicles scheduled there was one late cancellation and one No Show. The one long line of show field vehicles was 774 feet in length and there, during the judging activity, was Phyllis Rickabus working as a Runner collecting completed Judging forms from the judging teams and delivering them to the Tabulators, *on her scooter*. The tabulation process was completed around 2 PM and there in the Terminal was Phyllis, judging results in hand, organizing her vehicle slide show presentation scheduled for showing during the Awards Banquet Saturday evening.

Friday evening was to have been an open time but Meet Chair Mike McFarland worked up a Cruise to Downtown Port Huron. The City blocked off one parking area for our

use between 6 and 8 PM in a park like area adjacent to the St. Clair River in the shadow of the Blue Water Bridge.

Approximately 35 VCCA vehicles participated with a few locals joining in with their vintage vehicles. The event attracted a lot of lookers and was a hit with both the locals and Central Meet participants.

Saturday was Tour day and for the first time the weather wasn't co-operative. The day started out cool and wet which put a damper on the use of some vintage vehicles usage. The Tour activities were put together by the Wetherwax's and the Gardners'. First stop was the Wills Sainte Claire Museum. Leaving the Museum the tour traveled south following the St Clair River to Algonac for lunch. The afternoon leg of the tour returned to Port Huron along the same route as the morning tour, ending at the Fort Gratiot Lighthouse for a total distance of approximately 53 miles.

Saturday evening found the majority of the meet participants gathered at the Seaway Terminal attending the Awards Banquet. The Banquet was in the capable hands of the Meet Co-Chair Linda Harbron and all went well. Our caterer once again did a great job and Phyllis' slide show was flawless. The Awards ceremony was well organized and moved along smoothly and in a timely manner.

The following is a listing of those Lower Michigan Region members who received recognition during the Awards Banquet.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Award</u>
A	Pinky & Joyce Randall	1914 Lt Six	1 st senior
B	Don & Linda Harbron	1919 490 Tour.	1 st Senior
D	Clarence & Marie Straus	1923 Coupe	Pres. Mini
F	Darrell & Hope Dowdy	1928 CSC	1 st Senior
G	Lloyd & Marge Henige	1930 Tour.	Pres. Mini
J	Dave & Phyllis Rickabus	1934 Std. Sed	1 st Senior
N	Verle & Sharon Wetherwax	1941 Coupe	1 st Junior
O1	Tim Mehl	1942 2 Dr	1 st Junior
O2	Andy Jurski	1948 Conv.	Pres. Mini
P	Rod & Denice Thomas	1949 Bus Cpe.	Pres. Mini
S3	Jim & Cherie Johnson	1957 4 Dr.Sed	1 st Junior
S3	Bob & Lois Gardner	1957 2 Dr HT	1 st Junior
T2	Dave & Phyllis Rickabus	1934 Std Ute	1 st Senior
T4	Jim & Barb Morningstar	1952 Suburban	Pres. Mini
T4	Ton Hall	1968 4 X 4 pickup	2 nd SR
HPOCF	Mike McFarland	1957 2 Dr HT	Oval
HPOCF	Bob & Diana Sovis	1965 Corvair 4 dr	Mini
HPOCF	Andy Jurski	1972 Monte Carlo	Mini
	Robin Reinke	1931 Cab	Participation
	Mike McCarty	1934 4Dr	Participation
	Mike McFarland	1964 Greenbrier	Participation
	Ron & Marilyn Henige	1975 Conv.	Participation
	Bruce & Mary Granger	1975 Conv.	Participation
	Andy Mehl	1984 Monte Carlo	Participation

This article wouldn't be complete without a few acknowledgements. The 50th Central Meet planning received a major setback when 32 days prior to the event, the Host Hotel cancelled which not only changed the major plans but also affected just about every item within the plan. First to Mike McFarland, Mary Sumulski, and Linda Harbron who never gave up on their desire to conduct the 50th Central Meet and who managed to formulate a revised plan within a two day time frame which ultimately led to a successful event. Your combined efforts did the Lower Michigan Region and its members Proud.

Thanks to the Lower Michigan Region Membership who stepped forward and provided the physical help and moral support needed.

We acknowledge the efforts given by Chief Judge Chris Cufur, Assistant Chief Judge Greg Barlage, Deputy Judges, Team Captains, Judging team members, Tabulators, Runners, and thank them all for their time. Also the Miami Valley Region members for manning the day long Field Entrance Check. The efforts of these folks surely lightened the load on the Lower Michigan Region membership.

My nomination for the 50th Central Meet Unsung Hero Award goes to Phyllis Rickabus for all the reasons given throughout this summary of events.

50th Central Meet Winners:



Best of Show – 4 cylinder Don Harbron 1919 490



Best of Show – 6 cylinder Lloyd Henige - 1930 Phaeton



Best of Show V-8 Ron Morz -1967 Impala SS 427



Best of Show – Commercial – David Bosley – 1951 1/2



Best of Show – HPOCF - Bob Sovis 1965 Corvair



Phyllis and her Scooter

50th Central Meet Activities:



Thursday Ladies Luncheon



Friday Judging



Saturday Tour – Rita & Mike Jones – Bill Kohley



Tour Luncheon



Saturday Awards Banquet

OCTOBER MOTH BALL TOUR
October 17 & 18 (Thursday and Friday) - Save the Date

This two day tour will provide an interesting comparison of more than a century of automobile manufacturing technology and includes visits to three National Historic Landmarks. The tour begins at a hotel in Troy followed by a drive to the GM-Hamtramck Assembly Center where the Chevrolet Volt plug in electric vehicle is built. We will tour the volt plant seeing assembly techniques used on one of Chevrolet's most sophisticated power trains. From there we drive a few miles to the Ford Piquette Avenue plant (National Historic Landmark). The Piquette Plant is well preserved historic auto factory that operated from 1904 to 1910 and is the birth place of the Model T. A docent will provide a walking tour of the plant showing assembly techniques that provide an interesting contrast to procedures used in the Volt Plant. After lunch we will take a docent led walking tour of the historic Milwaukee Junction/Piquette Plant area. The Milwaukee Junction (railroad intersection) was the high tech area of Detroit in the early 1900's. We then drive to GM Headquarters in the Renaissance Center for a docent led tour of the building. Dinner on your own in the Ren Center. Return to your hotel.

Friday begins with a drive from the hotel in Troy to Meadowbrook (National Historic Landmark) for a docent led tour of the gardens. Meadowbrook is the forth largest mansion in the US and is the former estate of John and Mitilda Dodge. Then on to the Packard Proving Grounds (National Register of Historic Places) for a docent led tour of the historic facilities. After lunch we will drive to the Stahl Automotive Foundation in Chesterfield. After touring the facility we will have VCCA/LMR meeting at Stahls. The cost is for the tour is \$28 plus lodging and meals. Reservation information will be available in next month's Chevy Chatter. For additional information contact Mike at 248-528-1273 / michaelrrmccarty@gmail.com.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Note: Your advertisement will be placed here free of charge to club members

For Sale: 1921 Chevrolet 490, 4 door sedan. Good Condition. Contact Steven Newnam 317-896-3597 or email steven.newnam@frontier.com.

For Sale: Cheap, all must go, we're downsizing: 1929 small parts of all kind, new and restored. Good running '29 engine, also extra head and block; 1976 Monte Carlo, set of NOS rocker panel moldings complete. A few 1966 Chevelle moldings. Lew Clark, 10401 Lloy St., Portage, Michigan, 49024. Phone 269-327-5522 or Cell 269-598-2742.

For Sale: 1932 Chevrolet chassis and drivetrain complete, frame, engine, transmission, including freewheeling unit. Asking \$2,000. Purchased for a street rod project, but it's just too good to cut up. Call Skip at 810-869-3707.

For Sale: Large accumulation of 1933 Chevy Master parts (4 dr. sedan) for sale. Located near Ann Arbor, MI. Too many to list. Call or Email and I will send pictures and negotiate prices. Joe Scheuring, Ph 734-426-3586 or mail Scheuring@aol.com.