



CHEVY CHATTER

www.lmrchevy.com



LMR Vintage Chevrolet Club founded in 1965



(above) The tour began with breakfast at Mike and Barb Sparks Morton Bldg. in Saranac. (right) Bob Sovis studies the Meijer map of 162 acres of exhibits while his wife Diane, (below) an avid gardner, studied the fall flower and fruit arrangements.



(left) What type of mums are these? Joyce Randall and Sharon Wetherwax found these hanging orbs of mums at Meijer Gardens to be unique while the statue of Jerry Ford at the Presidential Museum was impressive for Phyllis and Dave Rickabus.



Enjoying the Mothball Tour in western Michigan



(right) Dave and Joyce French got some planting ideas for their yard while (below) Tim and Pat Mehl look at the Ford exhibits, which covered his life.



The 32 mile Mothball Tour proved to be an interesting trip for these LMR members who traveled the hills and valleys of western Michigan to Frederick Meijer Gardens and eventually ended in downtown Grand Rapids at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum on the banks of the Grand River.

November 5, 2016 (Saturday)

Annual LMR Banquet will be held at
Bestsellers
360 South Jefferson
Mason, MI 48854

See you at 1 p.m. cash bar, buffet & entertainment
Reservations were due in late October

January 1, 2017 (Sunday)

LMR membership dues should be mailed to Mary Samulski. Send your checks to
LMR VCCA Membership
P.O. Box 303
Imlay City, Michigan 48444



from the driver's seat . . . Bill Anderson old50grit@comcast.net

Wow! November already? Where did summer go? There were many tours to fill the weekends in Michigan this year. Now we have just one more activity before the snow sets in. Hopefully you signed up for the LMR banquet, November 5. The date was moved to early November to allow members who migrate south for the winter to have a chance to participate.

We had a lively planning discussion during our October membership meeting with homework for several officers to pursue during the coming months. The long term budget was a big topic for discussion, and we are making progress. Fund raising was discussed, but cost containment currently appears to be the preferred strategy. One major item in the budget is the cost of printing and distribution of the *Chevy Chatter*. I encourage you to receive the *Chevy Chatter* by e-mail if you are not currently doing so. We have a significant number of folks who receive a printed copy but could receive it by e-mail, so give that some thought, and contact Barb Sparks, or myself, to make the change.

The 2017 calendar has been created, and you should see detailed information in upcoming newsletters. The calendar pretty much follows the standard template we have enjoyed in the past.

For those members for whom I have an e-mail address I will forward information like the membership list, by-laws and roster booklet in the upcoming weeks.

Speaking of memberships, renew your membership as soon as possible so that we have something to work with by next spring. Somehow, waiting until fall to receive an updated membership list seems to be a bit out of sequence. I like to know who is on the list when the new year begins, rather than at the end.

Hope to see you at the banquet!

Minutes from the October meeting submitted by Phyllis Rickabus

Planning Meeting: Called to order by Director Bill Anderson at 1:09 p.m. Treasurer Pat Mehl proposed the 2017 budget. Discussion followed and budget approved. The 2017 calendar was discussed and mapped out. Meetings will be held at Layton Corners, Sloan Museum, or Factory One, Flint. Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m. • **Business Meeting:** Called to order at 1:50 p.m. with Pledge of Allegiance. 28 members plus guest speaker present including new member (May 2016) George Steel of Houghton Lake. September meeting minutes approved as printed. • **Reports:** Jim Morningstar presented list of 2017 nominees: Director - Bill Anderson, Ass't Director - Brian Granger, Treasurer - Pat Mehl,

Senior Board Members - Dave Rickabus, Bob Sovis, Verle Wetherwax, Junior Board Members - Bruce Granger, Mike McCarty, Tim Reinke Andy West, NO NOMINEE FOR SECRETARY. • **Treasurer:** Pat Mehl presented the YTD financial picture, reiterating the most expensive items are the newsletter (because of high cost printing in color and mailing hard copy) and the website. • **MOTHBALL Tour:** Thanks expressed to the Sparks for a tour, including breakfast (yum!), tour to and around (via tram) Meijer Gardens, lunch at Gardens, and tour to and stroll around Gerald R. Ford Museum, Grand Rapids. • **Banquet:** November 5 at Mason, MI bookstore and live entertainment, deadline is NOW! • **Mem-**

bership: Renewals due January 1. Send to Mary Samulski or give to Pat Mehl today. Bill Anderson stated a hope that VCCA will soon find a way for regional members to renew online for both national and regional, with revenue sharing also. That is 2 to 3 years away however. • **Newsletter:** Barb Sparks reported she still needs 82 copies of the newsletter printed each issue; she only sends about 20 copies via email. The BOD recommends that we cease printing color version and print in black only. Barb is asked to find out cost of color vs B&W printing. The BOD also appeals to the membership that has access to an e-mail address (yours or relatives) to make it available for receiving the

2016 Lower Michigan Region Vintage Chevrolet Club of America Officers

Director: Bill Anderson old50grit@comcast.net
Asst.Dir: Tim Reinke treinke@gmail.com
Secretary: Phyllis Rickabus daphyrick@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Pat Mehl tterrab55@hotmail.com
Historian: Bruce & Brian Granger brucedgranger@yahoo.com
Sunshine: Marge Henige mhenige57@yahoo.com
Ex-Officio Board member: Mike McCarty michaelrrmccarty@gmail.com

Sr. Board member: Andy Jurski novaandy63@bex.net
Sr. Board member: Mike McFarland yourdadscar57@gmail.com
Sr. Board member: Jim Morningstar jmpartstar@yahoo.com
Jr. Board member: Dave Rickabus daphyrick@yahoo.com
Jr. Board member: Verle Wetherwax sharonwetherwax@comcast.net
Jr. Board member: Bob Sovis rlsopp@yahoo.com

Chevy Chatter: Barbara Sparks chevy chattermi@gmail.com
PO BOX 353 Saranac, MI 48881
Membership: Mary Samulski 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.

October meeting minutes

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newsletter. • **Website:** Website as it exists today is expensive, not up-to-date, and sparsely accessed by anyone. **Motion:** Pat Mehl/Verle Wetherwax: that we abandon the current website with the intention to provide a new electronic tool for members and potential members to access regional club information. **Motion passed.**

• **Sunshine:** Marjorie Henige noted the death of Andy West's brother. • **Historian:** Bruce Granger reported receiving historical materials from Darrell Dowdy, Dick Oldenburg and Darlene Hess. Pinky Randall asked if VCCA would like Central Meet materials. Tim Mehl will check with National VCCA. • **Election:** Regular meeting recessed in order to present 2017 slate of officers and hold the election. Officers nominated for 2017: Director - Bill Anderson, Assistant Director - Brian Granger, Treasurer - Pat Mehl, Secretary -, Senior (continuing) Board Members - Dave Rickabus, Bob Sovis, Verle Wetherwax, Junior (new) Board Members - Bruce Granger, Mike McCarty, Tim Reinke, Andy West. The director called for Secretary nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming. Ballots were distributed for all offices. Suddenly a miracle occurred: Mike McCarty withdrew his nomination for Junior Board Member and volunteered to serve as Secretary. **Motion:** Jim Morningstar moved and Bob Sovis seconded that nominations be closed, and the slate of officers be elected by unanimous voice vote. Motion carried. The business of the Elections meeting having been completed, Director Bill Anderson adjourned the meeting and brought the regular meeting out of recess. [NOTE: Because both the Treasurer and the Director will remain the same for 2017, there is no need to re-authorize them as signatures on the LMR-VCCA account.]

• **Guest Speaker:** Guest speaker was Sam Power of Hagerty Insurance who explained how the company began and what kinds of insurance plus services Hagerty offers ... including a valuation tool and youth programs. Many thanks to Sam for his interesting presentation. • **This & That:** On behalf of the club, Bob Sovis presented Verle Wetherwax with certificates of appreciation for his work on both the 2015 LMR 50th Anniversary Celebration, and for heading up the 2016 6-Cylinder Tour. Jim Morningstar thanked all those who volunteered to hold office an office and/or perform an appointed job for 2017. Bruce Granger has acquired 50th anniversary Camaro posters from GM and has them available. • **50/50 Drawing:** Won by Robin Reinke. Badge fines collected. • **Meeting Adjourned:** 3:10 p.m.

(below) Since Phyllis and Dave just purchased a 1956 Chevy coupe they named Retta, they are looking forward to "modern comfort" on tours. "Now that we're older, we will really enjoy being able to drive on tours and not be so concerned about our lights while travelling early or late in the day, our speed - or lack of it - and the weather. We're going to be Old Car Guys!" Their four door sedan, pictured below, and the Ute have been sold.



(left) Phyllis Rickabus spent time working on small car parts.



(right) Preparing to paint the '27 Sedan, Phyllis wears a respirator. Painting is one of her favorite restoration projects.

Auto Restoration . . .

NOT for men only!

I read the *G&D*. I participate in LMR activities. I also interview LMR members about their vintage Chevys to feature in the *Chevy Chatter* newsletter.

But I must admit that I know nothing about restoring a vehicle. Transmission gears? A 194 engine distributor? A vacuum switch? I have no idea where these parts should go on a Chevy...or any other vehicle for that matter.

During tours and events, the guys always group together around a vehicle or two for lengthy discussions about the restoration projects. As I glance over in that direction, I admire the paint job, the amount of polished chrome or walk over to look inside the vehicle to see the color and type of upholstery. But I never concern myself about what is under the hood, or worse, what is under the vehicle, while my husband thinks nothing of scooting under a car or tractor on his back on dirt or greasy pavement! -Barb Sparks, editor

The only female that I know that is knowledgeable about restoration jargon is Phyllis Rickabus. And she actually has been involved in restoring three vehicles: a 1927 4-door sedan named Kenny, which took four years for a total restoration; a 1934 standard 4-door sedan named Patty, which was mostly restored professionally in a year after it was purchased in 2005; and a 1934 Standard Roadster-top utility from Australia named Gary which took almost six years with she and her husband Dave doing most of the restoration. "We like each other's company, and we both like a challenge and to learn new things. He's a 'Let's try it' person and I'm a 'Let's read the directions' person, so it works for us."

Because Dave is color blind, Phyllis is the electrician. "I have done most of the wiring on Kenny, the '27 sedan, some on Patty, the '34 standard 4 door, and the complete new vintage wiring harness on Gary, the Ute."

She even has her favorite mechanic tool. "I like a good socket wrench set," she admits.

But Phyllis has found over the years that "all tools are useful as long as you're using the right tool for the job!" And she found that there are many right tools to align doors, attach bumpers and fix frames.

Although she admits that she probably could not diagnose what is wrong with a vehicle's engine based on a suspicious sound, Phyllis has no problem getting greasy or dirty. "I'm more agile than Dave, so getting under the dashboard or car has often been my job."

Her most memorable experience with restoring a vehicle is painting. "Painting the '27 was a great time! It was complicated mixing paints with reducers, etc. and figuring pot times and amounts. Dave built a spray booth in the shop, and I had a good respirator mask and a good paint gun. The whole process appealed to my love of detail!"

Her advice to other females whose partners wouldn't mind a helping hand restoring their vehicles is "do it if you have the interest. I think it makes the car hobby more interesting!"

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.



Mike McFarland
(810)790-1812

Collector Car Sales



Need a Christmas gift idea? How about a Camero poster or cap?

For all you Chevy Camero enthusiasts, here's your chance to have a professional photo poster ready for framing courtesy of General Motors. (above left) Jim Morningstar and Tim Mehl hold up samples of the posters with (above right) LMR Historian Bruce Granger who has been in contact with GM and received the photo posters. Contact Bruce Granger at 810-667-0144 or email brucedgranger@yahoo.com. He has caps and other Chevy stuff too.

(Editor's note: the December 2016 issue of the Chevy Chatter will cover the banquet, new officers and a 2017 Calendar of Events.)

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

CHEVY CHATTER • INSERT • November 2016
LOWER MICHIGAN REGION

VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP and/or MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The purpose of the VCCA is to promote interest in the preservation and restoration of vintage Chevrolet manufactured vehicles twenty-five or more years old. Ownership of a vintage Chevrolet is not a prerequisite for membership.

In accordance with the NATIONAL VCCA ORGANIZATION BY-LAWS and the LOWER MICHIGAN REGION, VCCA BY-LAWS, each applicant must be a NATIONAL VCCA MEMBER in good standing in order to become a REGION MEMBER and must maintain that NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP status for continued REGION membership. **YEARLY NATIONAL DUES ARE CURRENTLY \$40.00**

Your National VCCA # _____ National expiration date _____

(Regional dues are accepted pending receipt of National VCCA member & expiration date)

LOWER MICHIGAN dues are \$20.00 per year. Region dues must be received by January 1.

All region members will receive a monthly newsletter, April-January. Region members are entitled to participate in all Region activities and will be notified of all such events in advance.

Name _____ Spouse _____

Telephone(____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____

Email address for Region

Directory _____

LIST VINTAGE CHEVROLETS OWNED (if any--attach list if needed)

Year	Model	Body Style	# Cylinder	Condition
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_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

FOR CLUB USE ONLY

Dues Paid \$ _____

New ____ **Renewal** ____ **Joined in** ____

Payable to: VCCA Lower Michigan Region

Return completed form with dues to:

LMR VCCA Membership
PO Box 303
Imlay City, MI 48444

