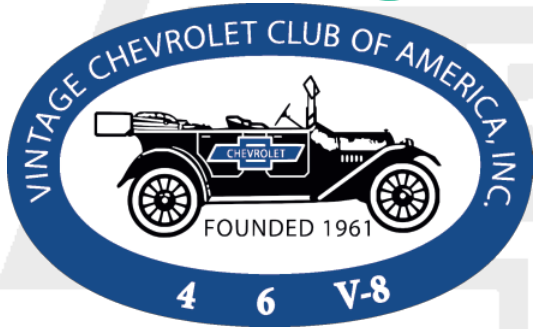


CHEVY CHATTER



Lower Michigan Region

In Memoriam



Dick Patterson (VCCA #:38372) passed away on September 13, 2021. He served with the US Army in Germany in the 1960s and is laid to rest at Fort Custer National Cemetery. He joined the VCCA in 1999.

A one-of-a-kind goes home!

Story by Tim Reinke
Photos courtesy of the Houghton Lake Resorter unless otherwise noted

On December 17, 2021 Pinky Randall's 1914 Chevrolet Light Six went home to General Motors. The car now lives in GM's Heritage Center in Sterling Heights Michigan.

I read a rumor on the internet on Saturday December 18th that Pinky had sold the car back to General Motors and didn't believe it. I called Pinky up that morning to verify and he assured me that General Motors had sent Reliable Auto Carriers to his shop to pick the car up the day before.

Pinky had owned this car since 1984 when he brought it back to Michigan from Hardwick Massachusetts. According to Pinky, he had found a sales brochure many years before finding the car. To his knowledge, no one was aware of a Light Six left in existence but that didn't stop Randall from seaching high-and-low for the car. I never got the specifics on how he found the car, but was quoted as saying "The car found me!" When the car found him in 1984, it was the second early 6-cylinder Chevrolet known. The other is the Classic Six that resides with the Sloan Museum in Flint, MI.

According to Randall, the Light Six was a smaller and lighter car than the Classic Six and only 496 Light Sixes were produced, all in Flint. As of now, this is the only one known still in existence.

The 1914 Light Six sports a leather interior, electric lighting and giant 26" tires. It has a 112-in wheel base. The 6 cylcinder engine boasted 271 cubic-inches of displacment and 35 horsepower.

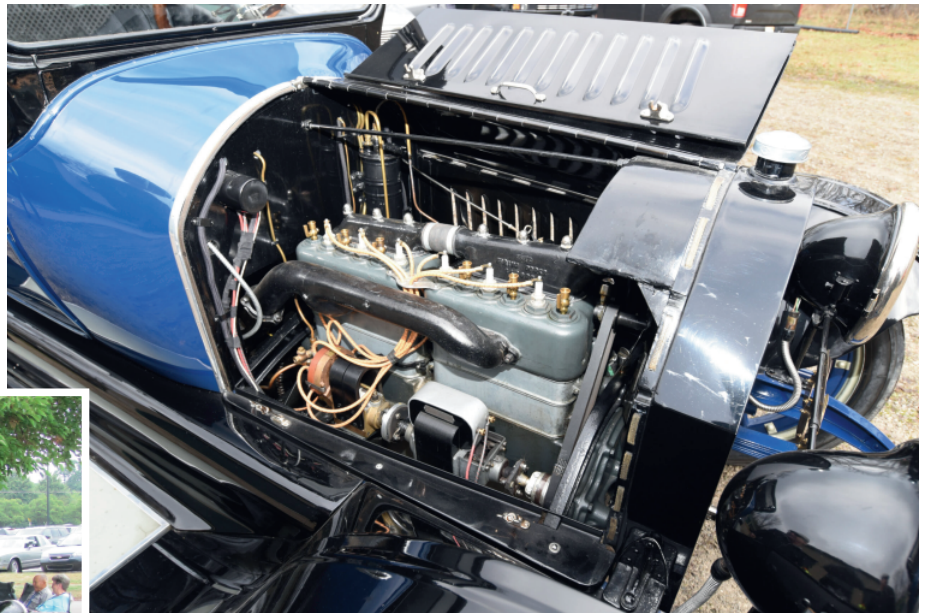
The car was in rough shape when Pinky brought it home. According to him, "the engine was completely shot" but the radiator still held coolant. Pinky and fellow LMR VCCA member Verle Weatherwax restored the car over a couple of years back in 2008. The car was prominently shown at the VCCA 50th Anniversary Meet held in Flint in 2011.

It was the oldest car in Randall's collection of 199 cars.

Pinky wanted the car to be saved and to be shared with the public, and so He and Joyce chose to send it to the General Motors Heritage Center for display. 



The late Pinky Randall points to the Bow-tie emblem on the radiator of his 1914 Light-Six. The now legendary Chevrolet bow-tie made it's debute in 1914.



Top Left: The interior of Randall's 1914 Light-six

Bottom Left: The Light six on display at the VCCA 50th Anniversary Meet in 2011 (courtesy of the VCCA website)

Right: The 271 in³ engine of the light-six prominently displayed

Greetings from the VCCA 60th Anniversary Meet Committee.

At the 55th Anniversary Meet in Lake Tahoe, we eagerly implemented a suggestion to have a “basket drawing”. This event proved extremely popular as well as profitable. It is our plan to offer another such raffle opportunity at the 60th Anniversary Meet in Bowling Green, Kentucky.



Our hope is that your Region would consider furnishing and donating a “basket” to be included in this drawing. They usually contain a grouping of unique and desirable items arranged together in a “basket” or similar container. Theme oriented collections such as car items, culinary delights, nationally recognized gift cards, hobby items, hand crafted items, jewelry, beauty items or even a single item of value you would like to donate would be appreciated. It could even be oriented toward your region’s location and/or what your area is famous for. The possibilities are endless!

Meet attendees can buy tickets and deposit those tickets in a container that is matched to a specific “basket or baskets” that they desire to win. The winning tickets will be drawn in the evening of Thursday, August 4th in the Sloan Convention Center. The “baskets” will be on display in the Chevy Store during the entire Meet, along with the information as to its contents and who generously donated the “basket.” Tickets will be sold on the registration form as well as in person in the Store for \$1 each. All proceeds will go towards funding various Meet events. Winners or their representative must be present to win.

Thanks in advance for considering this as a way to support the 60th Anniversary Meet.

In appreciation,
Eileen Cuftr

Kalamazoo Antique Auto Restorers Club Winter Swap Meet

Feb 4-5 2022

With events starting back up after a slow couple of years, the KAARC hosted their annual winter swap meet at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center once again and courtesy of Tim & Pat Mehl, the Lower Michigan Region of the VCCA had a recruitment table.



This year, the meet was held Friday afternoon and all day Saturday. There were some empty spaces but was well attended.



From the LMR, attendees included, Tim & Pat Mehl, Andy Mehl, Bill Anderson and Robin, Dennis & Tim Reinke. 



Photos courtesy of Rod Krager of the Cars of the Past Touring Club



CHEVROLET Spotlight

Bruce Granger - Collector of All Things

I am an avid collector, My dad was a collector and instilled in my brothers and I, that if you have 3 of anything, you have a collection. My collections include any and all kinds of toys – dolls, guns, farm machinery, diecast cars, models, etc. After serving 4 years as an aircraft mechanic in the USAF (crew chief on the FB-111A bomber) I started collecting promo model cars.

I was discharged on October 13, 1972.



Bruce Granger next to the last FB-111a he was crew chief of at Peace Air Force Base in New Hampshire

In 1973, I was at the LMR swap meet, which was still held in the basement of the Sloan Museum then, looking for more promo models. While there, Bob Sovis encouraged me to join the club, even though I did not have an old Chevy. I was

driving a '72 Olds Cutlass Supreme Convertible and a 1960 Cadillac Convertible at the time. I attended a meeting held in the basement of the Lansing Mall in 1974 and joined the club. In June of that year, I bought my first new car from Applegate Chevrolet in Flint, a 1975 Caprice, which I still have, but that is a story for another issue.

I am “planning” to downsize my collection in the near future, I will keep you posted on a date and time of the “reduction”.

Editor's Note: I hope to make Chevrolet Spotlight a regular feature of this newsletter, but I need your help. Please send me the story about how and why you joined the VCCA & LMR!

Email: Trreinke@gmail.com
Mail: 29900 33 Mile Rd
Richmond, MI 48062

Lower Michigan Region, VCCA 2022 Calendar

April 24th: Spring Meeting – Junction of Hope, Layton Corners – 1pm Board Meeting/2pm General Membership Meeting

May 20th-21st: Dustoff Tour

June 25th/26th: Sloan AutoFair– Flint Cultural Center – 1pm General Membership Meeting in the Sloan Museum

July 17th: Picnic

July 29th/30th: VCCA Central Meet – Bowling Green, Ky

July 31st – August 5th: VCCA 60th Anniversary Meet – Bowling Green, Ky
See G&D for details

August 20th: Back to the Bricks – Saginaw St., Flint MI

September 18th: Golden Memories – Flint Cultural Center – 1pm General Membership Meeting in the Sloan Museum

October 15th: Mothball Tour

November 5th: Banquet

Note: All dates are tentative and subject to change

Correction: The date of the April meeting was wrong in the last newsletter. The correct date is April 24th. Please update your calendars accordingly.

From Behind the Steering Wheel

with Brian Granger

1. Not much has been happening, lately, for me. How about you?

2. A small correction from in the February Chevy Chatter - the club's 1st meeting of the year, will be April 24, 2022 at Layton Corners. (April 14 is a Thursday) There will be a Board Meeting at 1 p.m. and General Membership Meeting at 2 p.m. We, as a club, still need a volunteer to be the Secretary this year. Do I have a volunteer?

3. The registration info for the 60th National Meet is supposed to be in the March issue of the Generator & Distributor. I hope many of you can attend.

4. Ya might want to attend the Detroit Autorama, March 4-6 at TCF (formerly COBO Hall), Detroit and Eastside A's Swap Meet, March 20, at Russ Milne Ford, Macomb, for something to do this month.

5. Other special days in March : Tuesday, March 15, Ides of March - Thursday, March 17, St. Patrick's Day - Sunday, March 20, 1st Day of Spring.

6. If you have not done so, please write a short story for the editor about a vehicle you have/had.

7. All Regions are being asked to provide a "basket" for a fundraiser at the Anniversary Meet. We will discuss at the April Meeting. See page 2 for the request.

8. Everyone stay safe.



!!! Important Central Meet Info:

Due to price increases at the hotel, The 2022 Central Meet will now be taking place in Bowling Green Ky. The host hotel of the Anniversary Meet will also be host to the Central meet July 29th & 30th.

If you made reservations at the hotel in Radcliff, please cancel them. You should be able to extend your reservations in Bowling Green back a couple of days and keep the VCCA rate.

The Central Meet car show will take place at the Sloan Convention Center in Bowling Green Ky on Saturday July 30th. Judging starts at 10am.

Field Entrance Check is:

Thursday 7/28: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Friday 7/29: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Saturday 7/30: 8:00am - 9:00am

There will be an awards banquet 10am on Sunday 7/31.

Help Needed!!

The Lower Michigan Region (that's us) is in charge of Field Entrance Check for the 59th Central Meet July 28th - 30th. If you are called by Tim or Pat Mehl to help with this, or for the upcoming 2023 60th Central Meet, please don't assume there will be someone else to fill the spot. We need all our members who are physically able to help out - and many hands make light work! We ALL lead busy lives, but if you are going to be at any of our upcoming meets or events, please donate an hour or two of your time to make the meets run smoothly. VOLUNTEER! It is what makes our region and our club run like a Chevrolet!!!

Tim Mehl (734-516-9191 or TLMEHL54@hotmail.com) or Pat Mehl (269-217-1253 or Jakobs.Grama@gmail.com)

On This Date in History:

March 5, 1927 - GM Introduces the LaSalle

Alfred Sloan, CEO of General Motors, developed the mantra "A car for every purse and purpose." His plan was to have a car for every budget in the GM Lineup. He started with the 5 main marques (Chevrolet, Oakland, Oldmobile, Buick and Cadillac) but by the mid '20s he found that there were gaps between those market segments. To rectify this, GM developed "companion marques" that were priced lower than their parent marque. LaSalle was the companion to Cadillac.

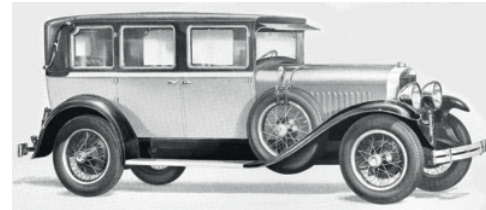
Like Cadillac, LaSalle gets its name from a famous French explorer (Rene-Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle) who is most well known for canoeing from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico and claiming the Mississippi River Basin for France.

Harley Earl was assigned the design work for the first generation of LaSalle. It was his first big assignment at GM and his success with the LaSalle convinced Sloan to create GM's "Art and Colour Section" and to make Earl Director.

The early LaSalle was a smaller car than the Cadillac but powered by the same V8s, making them faster and sportier than the large Cadillac. GM would drop the LaSalle line in 1940 after it lost considerable marketshare to Packard's mid-priced One-Twenty.



1927 advertisement for LaSalle



Artist rendition of a 1927 5-passenger sedan

Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Jill Anderson | 18 Theresa Maveal |
| 2 Marth Bamfield | 19 Mary Samulski |
| 3 Jim Schott | 20 Mable Beam |
| 4 Matt Dickinson | 22 Luanne Salz |
| 5 Darrell Hammond | 22 Gary Mehl |
| 10 Pamela Nagy | 22 Victor Pitcavage |
| 14 Bill Anderson | 24 Diane Latora |
| 15 Mike McFarland | 24 Marge Henige |
| 16 Cathy Sweet | 26 Bob Beam |
| 17 Bob Gardner | 27 Mary Jo Klock |
| 17 Jo Carpenter | 29 William Bissell |

Happy Anniversary!

- Mike McFarland & Mary Samulski
March 21, 2000
- Bill & Sue Weinberg
March 26, 1955

2022 Board of Directors

Director	Brian Granger	Grangerb59@yahoo.com
Asst. Director	Bill Anderson	old50grit@comcast.net
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer	Pat Mehl	Jakobs.grama@gmail.com

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	Brian Granger	GrangerB59@yahoo.com
Sloan Rep	Jim Schott	JamesSchott@outlook.com

The purpose of the VCCA is to promote interest in the preservation and restoration of vintage Chevrolet manufactured vehicles and GMC manufactured trucks. Ownership of a vintage Chevrolet or GMC is not a prerequisite for membership. LMR region dues are \$20 per year. To become a member, an applicant must be a National VCCA member in good standing. National dues are \$40 yearly.

Thank you to the following sponsor of the
LMR Chevy Chatter

www.LMRVCCA.org

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