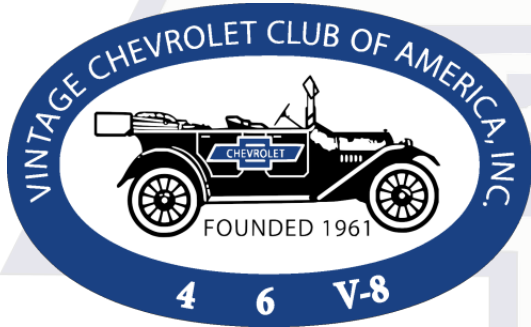


CHEVY CHATTER



Lower Michigan Region

2023 LMR Mothball Tour

October 14, 2023

Story and photos by Bill Anderson
Tour Director

This year's Mothball Tour was not intended to be much of a road tour. Distances to travel to the start of the tour route were long enough to preclude driving Pre-War cars since we were limited by available daylight. Good thing we chose mostly modern cars, because raindrops plagued us for the entire day which would have been rather unpleasant for some of our Vintage Chevrolets. Subsequently, our total tour distance thru the rain was about 20 miles.

Our tour crew for the day included Ole and Marie Hagen, their son's family, Dave and Phyllis Rickabus, Pat and Tim Mehl, Rod and Denice Thomas, Bill Anderson, and Bruce and Brian Granger, who kindly acted as chauffeur for Bob Sovis.

We scheduled two stops South and West of Jackson, MI, beginning at the Conklin Organ Museum in Hanover.



Our Host at the Organ Museum was Donna Cartmere who, with several docent assistants, explained the history of the Horton-Hanover area. The facility included many local artifacts in addition to the many organs on display. There were demonstrations of some of the unique instruments in their collection.

One entire wing was a one room schoolhouse from the early 20th century using antique furniture and fixtures salvaged from area schools.



Cont. on pg. 2.

Important Announcements!

Membership renewal: Renewal Time is here!, Please return it by December 31st 2023, even if there has been no change to your contact or car information. Please Note: Dues have increased to \$25/yr (digital Chatter) or \$30/yr (paper Chatter).

If you wish to renew online by check or credit card, go to <https://lmrvcca.org/membership/>

After the Organ Museum, we enjoyed lunch at Knights Steakhouse on our route to Lloyd Ganton's Ye 'Ole Carriage Shop in Spring Arbor.



Lloyd proudly guided us through his collection of original copies of 20th Century signage, household appliances, gasoline pumps, pedal cars, early 20th Century vehicles manufactured in Jackson, plus a collection of all things Coca-Cola, including a soda fountain displaying pretty much all the different styles and designs of Coke bottles and cans ever made. Not many folks have moved and re-assembled their Mothers' post WWII kitchen, including appliances, into their personal museum, but Lloyd did. Our 2 hour visit was a bit short to fully absorb the history and provenance of all the memorabilia on display. I'm thinking that some of us will be inclined to re-visit this collection as part of a future tour.



As always, during the first full week of October, the Antique Automobile hobby descends into Hershey Pennsylvania for the worlds largest auto swap meet. This year, the weather was warm and sunny everyday except for about an hour of rain Friday morning as cars were driving onto the show field. Those of us that attended were, hot, tired, sunburned and smiling ear-to-ear. The LMR members that attended this year were; Bill Jusela, Bill Anderson, Dennis Reinke, Robin Reinke, Tim Reinke and Jim Schott.

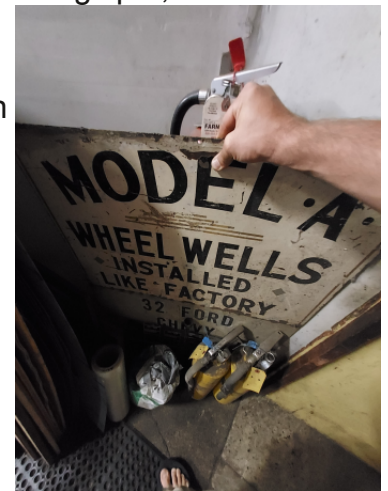


We have an excellent vending spot right in the middle of the grounds, not too far from the bathrooms, that we use as a base camp and sell our unneeded parts. This year we sold tons of parts, including Jim Schott who brought a rear seat out of a mid '90s camaro which were thought for sure we would need to throw

in the garbage at the end of the week, but after some wheeling and dealing, Bill Jusela was able to sell it cheap to a young lad to make a sofa out of. We could not believe it!



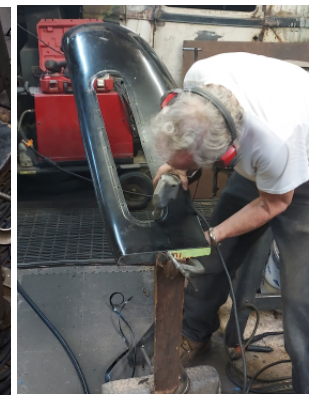
But selling is only part of the fun of Hershey, buying is also necessary and buying we did! It seemed that every time Bill Jusela came back to our vending spot, he was carrying parts for his Chevys. The best find he had was not one, but TWO new old stock belly pans for Chevy Four-Ninety's. Supposedly, every four-ninety had a belly pan when new, but most all have since been scrapped. Now Bill has one for both of his! Dennis was also lucky enough to find a bumper/grill for a car that a customer has had sitting at his shop all summer waiting just for this part.



This year, we took a detour one evening to the little town of Chambersburg to visit a gentleman named Bill Gift, who is a renowned metal smith. Robin and Tim each had a fender for their '31s that needed to have a spare tire well put in. It was truly a treat to watch such a craftsman work. His shop was just packed to the hilt with stuff. Each and every bench, table and shelf was piled 2 feet high but he was able to find everything he needed. He started by placing a template the size of the necessary hole on the fender and scribed out the hole. Then he used a plasma cutter to rough it out



and finished cut it freehand with a pair of tin-snips. From there he punched holes in the fender where the tack welds needed to go, then proceeded to use a custom made offsetting tool to start the bend for the lip and bend the lip by hand. Then he just welded the wheelwells into the fender on the flange and ground them down. They came out very nice.



Vintage Chevrolet Club of America - Lower Michigan Region

Meeting Minutes - October 22nd, 2023

Call to Order - Brian called the meeting to order promptly at 2PM.

Pledge of Allegiance - Brian led the group in the recitation of the Pledge.

New Members and Guests

Brian introduced a new member, Raven Hand, who is the Tour Chairman for the Detroit Area Corvair Club.

Approval of Meeting Minutes - Approved as read

Reports:

Treasurer, As Pat Mehl was absent; Tim Mehl covered the current 2023 budget as well as the 2024 budget. With the finalization of the Central Meet we are in good financial condition. For 2024 the budget for printing of the newsletter was increased to account for increased costs of materials and printing.

Membership, Bill Anderson reported that we have 3 new members which brings our total to 91. Bill indicated that he has not contacted recent VCCA members listed in the G&D.

Sunshine, Nothing to report

Newsletter, Nothing to report. As Tim Reinke was absent, Brian requested that everyone submit articles for the newsletter to Tim R.

National Board, Most of the National Board were at Hershey this past month so there was no activity. Tim M reported that Joe Razumich from the Indiana Region, will be running for the Area 7B Director.

Historian, Nothing to report

Awards, Nothing to report

At this point Brian suspended the regular meeting in order to present Slate of Officers for 2024.

Brian was nominated for Director by Phyllis Rickabus and seconded by Bruce Granger,

Junior Board Members will be Andy Mehl and Pam Mehl.

Bill Anderson will be Assistant Director

Tim Mehl will be Secretary

Pat Mehl will be Treasurer

Senior Board Members will be Denice Thomas and Bill Jusela.

The Board was unanimously approved.

The regular meeting was reconvened.

Old Business

The Spring awards banquet is tentatively scheduled for April 20, 2024, at the Brookshire Inn & Golf Club in Williamston, Michigan. You can review the facility by going to www.brookshiregolfclub.com.

Menu selections and pricing are being evaluated. More information will come in a future Chevy Chatter, as soon as we have the information.

New Business/Other

Pat Mehl made a motion which Tim read to the members in Pat's absence) to designate \$1200.00 in funds from the recent Central Meet, as seed money for the 61st Central Meet and to be sent to the Treasurer of the Cuyahoga Valley Region. Further, the balance of funds from the Central Meet are to be used for the general budget of the LMR. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Brian cover the 2024 Calendar of events. Check your newsletter for details.

Other Activities

Denise Thomas did the 50/50 raffle. Tim Mehl won and donated the funds back to the club.

Tech Talk:

Phyllis stated that they had a problem with the wipers on the '93 Suburban. It turned out to be a grounding problem.

Bill Anderson explained the problem he is having with his truck transmission. He asked about S/N information. Tim Mehl will check to see if he has any that would help.

Bill Jusela stated that he found out some new information on the H-Models while at Hershey. He found out that they came with a belly pan. He was able to buy 2 NOS pans while there.

Bill said he is having some of the H-Model Chapter members over to his house on Wednesday at 3 PM if anyone is interested.

Adjournment - Brian adjourned the meeting at 2:45 PM.



LOWER MICHIGAN REGION

VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

2024 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP and/or MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The purpose of the VCCA is to promote interest in the preservation and restoration of vintage Chevrolet and GMC-manufactured vehicles twenty-five or more years old.

Ownership of a vintage Chevrolet/GMC 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 \$25.00 PER YEAR. Region renewal dues must be received by mid-January. All region members will receive a monthly newsletter by email, January - December. Region members are entitled to participate in all Region activities and will be notified of all such events in advance. **For those who have the need to receive their newsletter by post, dues will be \$30 per year** to help defray printing/mailing costs.

Member 1 _____ Member 2 _____

Birthdays (mo/da) Mbr 1 _____ Mbr 2 _____ **Anniv mo/da/yr)** _____

Address A _____ Dates of Res _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Address B _____ Dates of Res _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____ Mobile: (____) _____

Email 1 : _____ Email 2 : _____

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

<u>Year</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Body Style</u>	<u># Cylinders</u>	<u>Condition</u>

Return completed form with dues to:

LMR VCCA Membership
 3301 Saddle Ridge
 Highland, MI 48357-2535

Checks Payable to:
VCCA Lower Michigan Region

FOR CLUB USE ONLY

New _____ Renewal _____

VCCA Join Date _____

Paid \$ _____

Cash _____ Check _____

LETTER TO THE EDITOR!

Hello, fellow members of this mighty-fine Chevrolet Club! I'm Dave Rickabus, and I have been a member of this club for over 25 years. I have to say they have been the very best years of my life, when I consider the friends I have made and where this club has been and what it has done. Did you know that this club sponsored and ran a SWAP meet down in Monroe, Michigan for years and years? It was ambitious – very well-attended – fun – exciting – cohesive -- bonding -- money making-club building. In those days our club was strong, exciting, and vibrant.

I was the Director of the club for a year and my wife, Phyllis, was Director for a year also. (Her title was "the Wrench Wench.") We had great attendance at all of our meetings and banquets. Our club was so great that cars should be named after our members like "Oldenberg", "Galbraith", "Davenport". It's just fun thinking about it. Phyllis and I restored two vehicles with the help of these gentlemen and we just had soooooo much fun.

I get excited just thinking about the potential that this club has. We have a lot of new members. We currently have 91 members – one of the largest clubs in the country. We should be leaders – showing others how to do exciting and fun events. With a membership as large as ours there is so much pent up energy and good ideas, it's about to explode. Come forth, folks, with YOUR new ideas – some new excitement.

Our present leadership is to be commended. They are working tirelessly and are doing a superb job to the benefit of us all. (Can you tell that I love this Club?) And I applaud our leadership. They are not just good; they are superb !!

Dave Rickabus, VCCA# 36561
Hope to see you on the road soon!



Some short stories

By Bruce Granger

My first car was a 1958 Bel Air, I paid \$300 for it in 1967. I did a lot of work fixing the body and painting it. I had to sell it for a loss in 1967 after receiving a letter in the mail that started, "GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT"



Many years ago I had a 1973 Chevy Impala station wagon - the trans went out. I let my brother-in-law use it in a Demolition Derby. It got hit so hard it "bent" in the middle & the driveshaft fell out!!!!



Please send me a short story about a car you have owned

Lower Michigan Region, VCCA 2024 Calendar

March

17 LMR-VCCA Meeting @ Junction Restaurant Layton Corners MI
1pm Board, 2pm General Membership

April

20 Kick-off Banquet Williamston, MI

May

10-11 LMR-VCCA Dustoff Tour TBD

June

22-23 Sloan Musuem AutoFair Flint MI
LMR Membership Meeting – 1pm

July

13 LMR Summer Picnic – Location & Specifics TBD
25-27 VCCA 61th Central Meet – host: Cuyahoga Valley Region Strongsborg, OH

August

17 Back to the Bricks Flint MI

September

15 Sloan Museum Golden Memories Flint MI
LMR Membership Meeting – 1pm
28-29 LMR-VCCA Dustoff Tour TBD

October

20 LMR-VCCA Meeting @ Junction Restaurant Layton Corners MI
1pm Board, 2pm General Membership

Note: All dates are tentative and subject to change

Chevy in the News

If you were hoping to get an electric Silverado pickup anytime soon, General Motors dropped bad news for you. On October 17th, 2023, Chevrolet announced that production of the Silverado EV would be delayed until 2025. In spring of 2023, Silverado EV WTs (Electric Vehicle Work Truck) became available to existing GM fleet customers. GM announced that in the 3rd quarter of 2023, they sold 18 (that is not a typo) Silverado EV WTs.



This delay in the Silverado EV means that the Orion Assmeby plant will be idled for 2 years. The assembly plant currently produces the Chevrolet Bolt which will be put on hiatus at the end of the year while it goes through a major revamp. The Chevy bolt went through a massive recall in 2021, when every Bolt produced between 2017 and 2022 was recalled for protential battery fires while charging. The Orion Assembly Plant currently employs about 1000 workers who will all have the option to transfer to other facilities at the plants closing.



Electric Chevrolet's might be the future, but not 2024.

Source: The Detroit News and the Associated Press



From Behind the Steering Wheel

with Brian Granger

November brings to mind the poem, by James Whitcomb Riley, "When the Frost is on the Pumkin' !" Look it up and re-enjoy your youth.

The leaves are fallin' and a many snowbirds are wingin' southward for the winter. To them, I wish, safe travels.

It's that time for many of us to fill the gas tanks, add trickle chargers to the batteries, place Irish Spring soap chips, dryer sheets and/or moth balls throughout, then cover our prize Chevrolets for a long winter's nap.

At the October 22nd general meeting, those present, chose new officers for 2024. See the meeting minutes, in this newsletter, for names/positions filled. If you have an idea for a place the club could visit/re-visit, let myself or Bill Anderson know. The club can't visit em, if we don't know about em. A calendar of events was also made. Tim Reinke, "Chevy Chatter" editor, will post those dates along with other dates of interest.

Congratulations go out to those couples who were married in the month of November and Happy Birthday wishes to those born this month. You made it around the Sun, again. A BIG "Thank You!", to those who served and/currently serving this Veteran's Day. Finally, may your turkey be juicy and no lumps in your mash taters & gravy.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Welcome Aboard!

Bob Crawford
of Ann Arbor, MI with his 1965 C10
Pickup



Happy Anniversary!

Victor & Barb Pitcavage
November 1, 2001

Steve & Ella Hughes
November 22, 1989

Happy Birthday!

- 4 Bill Jusela Sr.
- 4 Dennis Reinke
- 6 Thomas Hall
- 11 David Nico
- 15 Harvey Hammond
- 17 Paul Pawlosky
- 17 Carol Buller
- 20 Ross Vincent
- 23 Mark Whelan
- 23 Jeff Bladow
- 24 Michael Sparks



For Sale: 1993 Suburban
mileage = 100,000 mls, new
crate engine and air compressor,
and 4 new wheels. Clean
interior. It fully deserves the
price of \$20,000.

Dave Rickabus (810) 797-4453



2023 Board of Directors

Director	Brian Granger	Grangerb59@yahoo.com	(810) 348 - 5198
Asst. Director	Bill Anderson	old50grit@gmail.com	
Secretary	Tim Mehl	TLMehl54@hotmail.com	
Treasurer	Pat Mehl	Jakobs.grama@gmail.com	

Members-At-Large

Bruce Granger	Brucedgranger@yahoo.com
Bill Jusela	wjusela@comcast.net
Robin Reinke	(989) 513-0590
Denice Thomas	Denicet10345@yahoo.com

Ex-Officio	Vacant	
Membership	Bill Anderson	old50grit@gmail.com
ChatterEditor	Tim Reinke	treinke@gmail.com (989) 513-5129
Sunshine	Denice Thomas	Denicet10345@yahoo.com
Historian	BruceGranger	Brucedgranger@yahoo.com
	Brian Granger	GrangerB59@yahoo.com

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2024 Misc. Car Event Calendar

Jan	7 VCCA GLR Swap Meet	Peotone, IL
	20 Jackson Swap Meet	Jackson, MI
	28 Script A Swap Meet	Saginaw, MI
Feb	2-3 KAARC Swap Meet	Kalamazoo, MI
	9-11 Chrome & Ice Car Show	Flint, MI
Mar	17 Eastside A's swap Meet	Macomb, MI
Apr	14 Monroe Swap Meet	Monroe, MI
May	18-19 Bearing Burner's Swap & Show	Shelby Twp, MI
	19 Back to the Bricks Promo Tour	Flint, MI
	26 Festival of Cars Car Show	Rochester, MI
Jun	9 Cars "R" Stars Swap & Show	Shelby Twp, MI
	9 BWR AACA Car Show	Marysville, MI
	7-12 Back to the Bricks Promo Tour	Flint, MI
	22-23 Flint Auto Fair Car Show	Flint, MI
	24-28 VCCA 4cyl Tour	Great Falls, MT
July	22 Iola Swap Meet	Iola, WI
	25-27 VCCA Central Meet	Strongsville, OH
Aug	3 Gilmore Red Barn Spectacular Swap & Show	Hickory Corners, MI
	5-10 Back to the Bricks tune up	Flint, MI
	17 Back to the Bricks Car Show	Flint, MI
Sept	7-8 Greenfield Village Old Car Festival	Dearborn, MI
	17 Golden Memories Car Show	Flint, MI
Oct	7-11 AACA Eastern Fall Meet	Hershey, PA

Note: All dates are tentative and subject to change

Thank you to the following sponsor of the
LMR Chevy Chatter

www.LMRVCCA.org

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@VCCA_Official and visit the VCCA
facebook page often!!***



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