

October 2023  
**CHEVY** CHATTER




Lower Michigan Region

## Sloan AutoFair

Photos by Denice Thomas



LMR Member's cars at Sloan's Golden Memories Car show were Richard Beach's 1955, Dennis & Bonnie Reinke's 1941, Brian Granger's 1965 Corvair, Bob Sovis' 1965 Corvair, Rod & Denice Thomas' 1949, Bill Jusela's 1920 490, Robin Reinke's 1931 Devaux, and Jim & Jo Carpenter's 1948 which celebrated it's 75th Birthday! 

## Important Announcements!

Plans are taking shape for the Mothball tour to take place on Oct 14th in the **Jackson** area. Details & Registration are on pages 6 & 7.

We will have our final **meeting** of the year at the Junction of Hope Resturant in Layton Corners on **October 22**. We are in need of people willing to serve on the Board of Directors next year. Please come and volunteer.

There will be **NO BANQUET** this Autumn. We will start the 2024 year with a banquet in April. Stay tuned for details in the next couple of months!

Per a motion passed at the June meeting, Effective Jan 1st, 2024. Dues for all LMR members will increase to \$25/year. If you wish to recieve a paper copy of the newsletter, dues will be \$30/year.

# Vintage Chevrolet Club of America-Lower Michigan Region

## Meeting Minutes -September 17, 2023

### **Call to Order**

Brian called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Brian led the attendees in the Pledge of Alligiance.

### **New Members and Guests**

There were no new members or guest attending.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Brian asked if there were any revisions or changes to the meeting minutes as published in the Newsletter. Hearing none the meeting minutes were approved.

### **Reports:**

#### **Treasurer**

Pat reported that the Central Meet was very successful for the LMR. She is still finalizing the numbers and will make a full report at the next meeting. The overall 2023 budget is doing well. Tim Reinke indicated that he expects to be a little over budget for the newsletter, this year.

#### **Membership**

Bill reported that we have two new members which brings our total to 91. Bill passed out the current membership list.

#### **Sunshine**

Denise had nothing to report.

#### **Newsletter**

Tim indicated that he continues to look for articles for the newsletter. Short articles with pictures are best!

#### **National Board**

Tim Mehl indicated that his term is up this year and that election for a new Area 7B director will be this fall. Watch the G&D for information.

#### **Historian**

Nothing to report.

#### **Awards**

Nothing to report.

### **Old Business**

Pat reviewed the Central Meet and explained how the attendance increase resulted in a significant surplus for the LMR. Three LMR members received best of show awards. Also, there were a number of first time attendees who really enjoyed the show. Pat stated that she is working with Jim Karras to post photos and stories from the Central Meet on the LMR website. Lastly, Pat indicated that an article has been submitted to the G&D.

### **New Business/Other**

Bill mentioned the upcoming fall tour. Then Bill led a discussion of driving tours vs site-seeing tours. There was a lot of discussion around this topic with some members supporting each



option. Many members indicated their strong support for Bill and all of the work he does in putting tours together.

Brian asked Bill about our banquet for the Spring of 2024 and Bill indicated that he has not started working on it.

Brian brought up the topic of flags for a fundraiser. He indicated that he had pricing on a specific flag from a company in Canada. This would be VCCA logo flags for display when touring. They are 5 x 8 1/2 in. and 11 inches tall. They have a rubber coated magnet to keep from scratching the car finish. The cost is \$14/ea. There was a discussion around these flags and a decision was made to table this topic while more research is done.

**At this point Brian suspended the meeting to take nominations for the Board**

Director: There were no nominations from the floor.

Assistant Director: Bill Anderson was nominated and agreed to serve.

Secretary: Tim Mehl stated that he would continue to serve in this capacity

Treasurer: Pat Mehl indicated that she will continue to serve as Treasurer.

Outgoing Senior Board Members: Robin Reinke, Bruce Granger.

Bill Jusela and Denise Thomas will become the new Senior Board Members.

Pamela Mehl and Andy Mehl have accepted nominations to be Junior Board Members.

**Brian resumed the normal meeting.**

**Other Activities**

Bill Anderson won the 50/50 raffle and donated the funds to the club.

Tim Reinke mentioned that you now have to request an anniversary membership badge as they are no longer sending them automatically.

Tech talk: Bill Anderson mentioned that he had a problem with a noise in his drive train. He traced it down to the bushing in the torque tube. It had significantly worn the shaft. He was able to find someone to weld up the shaft and re-machine it to tolerance. He also had a starter issue which he explained.

Brian mentioned that Paul Pawlowski is looking for a left convertible top gear assembly for '75 Caprice. ('73 through '76 GM products will work (per Bob Sovis & Bruce Granger).

Tim Reinke mentioned that he and Robin still have room if anyone is interested in going to Hershey.

Bill Anderson knows where there is a '40 Chevy for sale for \$5000.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

**Attendees: Brian Granger, Bob Sovis, Bruce Granger, Rod & Denise Thomas, Richard Beach, Tim & Pat Mehl, Bill Jusela, Tim Reinke, Bill Anderson, Dave & Phyllis Rickabus, Jim Schott, Robin Reinke**

## From Behind the Steering Wheel

with Brian Granger

The flag (magnetic) idea I talked about in the September "Chevy Chatter" is a no-go! On Monday, following our last meeting at the Sloan Museum, I called the Michigan State Police post here in Flint, MI. I talked to the post commander and he said that other than Funeral flags, totally illegal. Even those side window flags (American, college, etc.) are not legal, either. Oh, you can place them on your vehicle if your are parked, just don't drive off with them on. Also, don't even think of driving with those cute felt brown deer antlers - totally illegal.



The Fall color Tour will happen October 14, south west of Jackson, MI. This is a one day event, meeting at 10:00 a.m. at the Conklin Reed Organ Museum, located in Hanover, MI. Our day will begin there.

Our last regular meeting will be Sunday, October 22, at the Junction of Hope, Layton Corners, MI. Meeting will began at 2:00 p.m. (There will be a board meeting beginning at 1:00 p.m.) I will re-open nominations for the 2024 board, take any nominations and those present will cast their votes.

"Happy Anniversary" to those couples wed in October, "Happy Birthday" those born this month and "Happy Halloween". y'all! Those heading to Hershey, safe traveling and great weather.



## Greenfield Village's Old Car Festival

Photos and information provided by Bill Anderson



The Lower Michigan Region of the VCCA had 3 entries in the Old Car Festival at Greenfield Village.

The cars pictured clockwise are Scott Taylor's 1927, David and Traci Alger's 1928 and Bill Anderson's 1932.



Below is Bill's 32 sitting between 2 1932 Fords. According to Bill, his original Chevy garnered much more attention than either of the Fords!



*Please send me a short story about a show you have attended and some pictures of the interesting cars.*



**USED CARS**

of the Lower Michigan Region



**For Sale:** 1934 Master Coupe. Call for more information. Asking \$29,000.

Mike  
McFarland:  
810-790-1812





# Lower Michigan Region, VCCA 2022 Calendar

**October 14th:** Mothball Tour - See pages 6 & 7

**October 22nd:** Meeting -Junction Resturant, Layton Corners - 1pm Board Meeting, 2pm General Membership

\*\*\*Note: All dates are tentative and subject to change\*\*\*

## **On This Date in History: Birth of the El Camino** Oct 16, 1958

Ford had started selling it's Ranchero in 1956 and was a very strong seller. So 2 years later, Chevrolet gave their answer in the El Camino. The car/truck hybrid was based on Chevrolet's full size cars with the same front end and tail fins but instead of a back seat and trunk it was a box like a pickup. It was not very popular and disappeared quite quickly in 1960.

The designers at Chevrolet went back to the drawing board and decided to flex their muscles when they brought it back. The car/truck concept and El Camino name would come rumbling back in 1964 based this time on the Chevelle platform and would follow the Chevelle/Malibu styling until the production was finally stopped for good in 1987. Through out the El Camino's entire life it was available with any drivetrain offered in Chevrolet's car line up . Form the humble 194 cu in straight 6 offered in 1964 to the monstrous 454 and everything inbetween.

The car/truck has a kind of cult following with some people loving the concept and the look and others saying be a car or a truck, don't try to be both. What is your thought?



1959 Chevy El Camino

**Tech Talk** Paul Pawlowski is looking for the left conv't folding top actuator assembly for a '75 Caprice convertible. I believe all Full-Size GM Convertibles in that period used the same assembly. Please contact Brian Granger (810)348-5198 or Paul Pawlowski (810) 496-1948.

### Happy Birthday!

6 Richard Beach  
7 Melissa Lauria  
22 Carole Amick  
23 Mark Whelen  
25 Cherie Johnson  
27 Donna Houskamp  
29 Gerald Nagy  
30 Jack Kohtz  
31 James Steinbauer

### Happy Anniversary!

Jack & Kay Kohtz  
October 3, 1964

Verle & Sharon Wetherwax  
October 13, 1990

Mark & Wendy Whalen  
October 10, 1987

Jeff & Jennifer Bladow  
October 18, 1997

Dave & Phyllis Rickabus  
October 12, 1985

Janie & David Nico  
October 29, 1978

Chip & Kathy Sweet  
October 31, 1964

## 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	Brucegranger@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
Chatter Editor	Tim Reinke	trreinke@gmail.com (989) 513-5129
Sunshine	Denice Thomas	Denicet10345@yahoo.com
Historian	Bruce Granger	Brucegranger@yahoo.com
	Brian Granger	GrangerB59@yahoo.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 \$25 per year. To become a member, an applicant must be a National VCCA member in good standing. National dues are \$40 yearly.*

# 2023 Lower Michigan Region, VCCA Mothball Tour

## October 14, 2023

### Tour Overview:

This year's Mothball Tour is a one day tour visiting two attractions Southwest of Jackson, MI. This is more of a destination event than a road tour.

We will meet at 10:00 AM at Conklin Museum, Hanover, MI, for our first visit.

Select your own route to meet us.

### **10:00 – 11:30 AM**

Conklin Reed Organ Museum  
105 Fairview St. Hanover, MI



### **11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

Lunch at Knights Steakhouse,  
2125 Horton Rd, Jackson, MI

### **2:00 PM**

Ye Ole Carriage Shop,  
3538 Henderson Rd, Spring Arbor, MI



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### REGISTRATION FORM

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Additional Participants:

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Tour Donation: \$20/car**

Checks Payable to: **Lower Michigan Region, VCCA**

Note: A donation will be made to each Museum

#### Send this information to:

Bill Anderson

3301 Saddle Ridge, Highland, MI 48357

Cell: 248-881-6510

Email: old50grit@comcast.net

Thank you to the following sponsor of the  
LMR Chevy Chatter

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