

March 2025

# CHEVY CHATTER



Lower Michigan Region

## St. Patrick's Day!



### In Memoriam

**Phyllis Rickabus** passed away on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025. She joined the VCCA in 1998. In 2007 she served as Region Director for the LMR. She and Dave received the Paul Hammond Award in 2006.

### Kickoff for the 2025 Season!

**SPONSORED BY:**  
**TNT AUTO BODY & MONROE DODGE**  
**FOR INFO CALL:**  
**NICK 419-579-4845**  
**SUE 419-579-6815**

**MONROE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**  
3775 S. CUSTER RD., MONROE, MI 48161  
Located On Corner Of M-50 And Raisinville Rd. 5.5 Miles West Of I-75 And 11 Miles East Of Us 23

**SUNDAY APRIL 13, 2025**

**INDOOR & OUTDOOR CAR SHOW**

**CASH PRIZE GIVE-A-WAY \$300, \$200, \$100**  
REGISTERED INDOOR CARS BY 7 AM OUTDOOR NONREGISTERED CARS AFTER 7 AM

**ALL MAKES AUTOMOTIVE SWAP MEET, NEW AND USED PARTS, LITERATURE, TOOLS, DIE CAST, & MORE**

**SPECTATOR RAFFLE - GIVE A WAY \$50 AT 10AM - 11 AM - 12PM - 1 PM**  
MUST BE ONLINE TO WIN

**ADMISSION ONLY \$8.00 AT DOOR - 12 & UNDER FREE**  
**PLENTY OF FREE PARKING!**

**SHOW HOURS SUNDAY ONLY FROM 7AM TO 3PM**  
**VENDORSET UP SAT. 9AM TO 5PM - SUN. 5AM TO 7AM**

**AFTER 7AM ON SUNDAY THERE WILL BE NO DRIVING IN SHOW**  
**IF YOU ARE NOT IN SPOT BY 7AM YOU MAY BE MOVED TO A NEW SPOT**

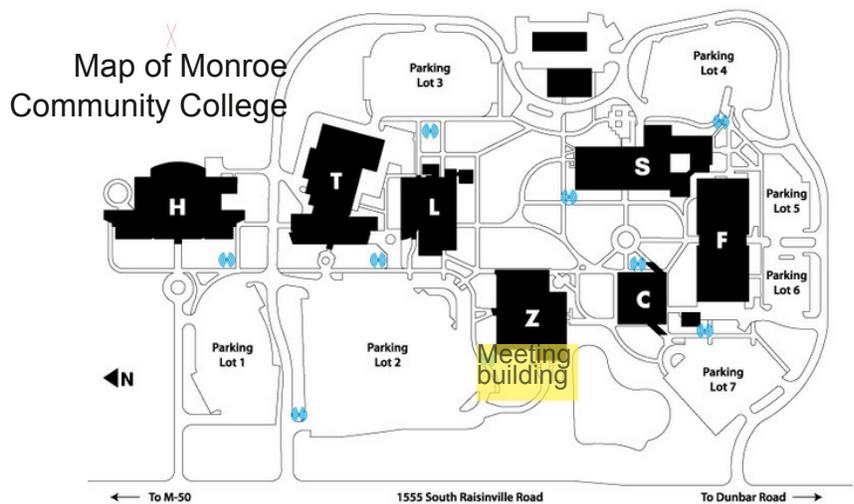
**Absolutely No Golf Carts Allowed On Site & Handicap Parking On Grounds Must Have Sticker.**

**www.monroeaautoswapmeet.net**

### Monroe Swap Meet and Member Meeting

The LMR-VCCA will have a table inside. Come see us, and bring your car collector buddies! We will be set up by 8 am, until 2 p.m.

After the swap meet please follow the map and join us for our first meeting of the year.



Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Place: Z259 Conference Room, Monroe Community College, 1555 S. Raisinville Road, Monroe, MI. Follow Raisinville Road south from the County Fairgrounds Turn left into either entrance and follow the signs for the La-Z-Boy Center (Building Z).

We will be discussing plans for the 2025 Annual Spring Banquet later in April (26h), the Dust-Off Tour in May, upcoming events for the summer. Please plan to join us – we've missed you!

**Membership renewal:** If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2025 please do, even if there has been no change to your contact or car information.



**Phyllis Rickabus**, 79, of Metamora, MI, passed away on February 6, 2025. Along with her husband, David, they were members of the Lower Michigan Region of the VCCA for over 25 years. Phyllis was very active in the club, serving on the LMR Board of Directors for over 12 years, as Secretary, Membership Chair, Assistant Director and Director. Phyllis was also Registration Chair for the 2011 VCCA Anniversary Meet, held in Flint, Michigan. Dave and Phyllis were very active in the vintage automobile hobby, showing their cars at many VCCA events, as well as other eastern Michigan events. Among the cars that they both owned and cared for, Phyllis had a special affection both for the 1956 Black Bel-Air, which she affectionately called “Retta”, and a Pontiac Solstice convertible.



Phyllis and Dave were married for almost 40 years. She attended Michigan State University, earned her Bachelor’s degree, and worked at Detroit Medical Center, and later at St. Paul’s UMC. She also volunteered for Habitat for Humanity; she was fearless!



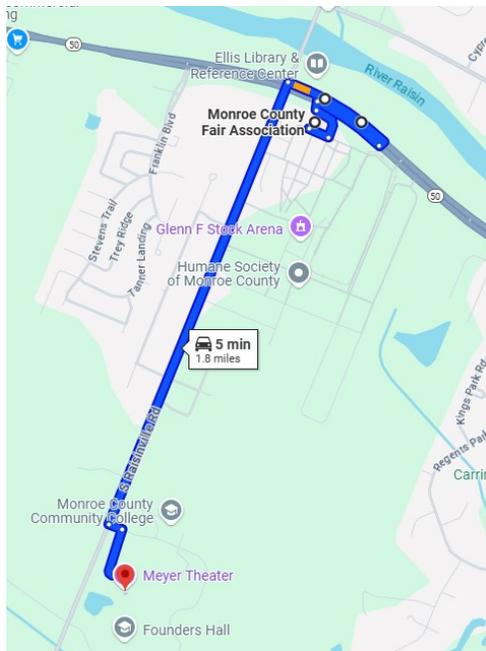
Phyllis had a zest for life that served her well; deer hunting in the great outdoors, hiking, horses (she loved the big ones!) and horseback riding. She was known for her delicious pies. A creative woman, she loved watercolor painting, and helping Dave with stained glass design. And they both enjoyed restoring and working on their many and varied automobiles.



Phyllis is survived by her husband, Dave, 3 stepchildren, 3 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, and her two brothers.

A Celebration of Life is being planned on Friday, June 13, 2025 at 11 a.m. in conjunction with a birthday celebration honoring Phyllis’ 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Visitation, Celebration, and Luncheon afterwards will be at St. Paul’s Methodist Church (620 Romeo Road, Rochester, MI).

## Maps for navigation assistance from Monroe County Fairgrounds (Swap Meet) to Monroe Community College (Meeting)



Meeting is in room Z-259  
3 PM

## From Behind the Steering Wheel

with Bill Anderson

This Month's Winter advice: Don't touch your tongue to a metal flag pole or pump handle. For those still stuck, Spring weather is on its way.



Let's see, "What did you miss in February?"

Feb 1. Again, most of you missed the PCPS presentation at LMR Member Bill Milliken's Point and Condenser Society warehouse in Ypsilanti.

The February presentation introduced us to the Motorsports Gateway complex just west of downtown Howell. For those who always wanted to live at the race track, here is an opportunity. Condos are available.



The March Lecture at the warehouse, 884 Railroad St. will be about GM Executive, Ed Cole and his tenure at GM, narrated by Barry Levine.



Want Ad Bulletin Board at Milliken's Warehouse: listing a '23 Model T, 1929 Chevy and a 1930 Chevy.

Feb 6, "An Evening at the Museum" at Pontiac Transportation Museum, 250 W. Pike Street. A very informative review of the city of Pontiac and the involvement of GM and other transportation equipment manufacturers in making Pontiac Michigan the center of manufacturing in the USA for a period of time in the late 19th Century and early 20th Century.

The Pontiac Transportation Museum, itself, is undergoing a continuous evolution on its way to becoming a most notable place to visit for those interested in automotive heritage. Since LMR last visited PTM, the Staff, volunteers, and contractors have completed Phase 1 of their building, and schedule completion of phase 2 by late April, Early May 2025. There is a Phase 3 in the future. Their current display contains a good sample of Pontiacs, their predecessor brands, and competitive brands.



The evening's presentation was conducted in the John McMullen Auditorium. John, who passed away in July 2024 was a former Michigan

Pontiac Dealer, an active member of VCCA, and LMR, who not only opened his collection to us during tours, but participated in them with his '51 Bel Air.



March 6, 7:00 PM is the next PTM Presentation. Bruce Annett will present "1928: Last Best Year In a Generation"

Feb 7-9 Back to the Bricks celebrated Chrome & Ice at Dort Financial Center, in Flint. In addition to the show cars, there were round table discussions about topics ranging from restoration tips to powertrain performance design objectives of muscle cars from the '60's & 70's. I met with our guest LMR banquet speaker, BttB founder and chairman of the board, Al Jones, who will bring us up to speed on 2025 BttB tours & shows.

Feb 28-March 2 Detroit Autorama. An event not to be missed. Hope to see you there.

April Plans are in place for our membership booth at April 13 Monroe Swap Meet, followed by a mid-afternoon LMR Club Meeting nearby at the Monroe Community College. Stay tuned for more details. If you'd like to help with the club table and display, let me know.

By popular demand, the Dust-Off tour, May 9 & 10, is currently headed toward Monroe on Friday and Manchester/Grass Lake Region on Saturday. More details coming.

If you have museum, workshop, or private collection venues we can visit, let me know.

Until next Month,

Bill Anderson  
Director & Membership  
248-881-6510

# 2025 Spring Banquet

After a successful “first run” at changing our banquet from late fall to spring, we are once again inviting all our membership to join us for the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Awards Banquet!**



Here are the particulars:

Date: Saturday, April 26, 2025

Time: Social hour – 11 a.m.; Lunch – noon; Program – 1 p.m.

Place: Brookshire Inn & Golf Club, 205 W. Church St., Williamston, MI (Phone: 517-655-4694)

Menu: Your choice of items from the following selection:

Smash Burger: 1/3 lb burger with L, T & Onion \$9

Turkey Melt: Smoked turkey, bacon, provolone, L, T & bistro sauce on pretzel bun \$10

Soup & Salad Bar: \$13

Grilled Atlantic Salmon: w/ choice of herb glaze, Cajun spices, or BBQ glaze; incl. choice of side side and choice of salad \$20

BBQ Ribs: Full o ½ slab, incl. choice of side and choice of salad. \$20

Program: Awards will be presented, speaker TBD, a 50/50 raffle will be held.

Cost: Food and beverages are on your own. A registration fee of \$5 is asked to help cover speaker’s fees and other miscellaneous charges.

**RSVP: By April 12, 2025**, using the attached registration form and mail with your \$5 fee per person to Pat Mehl, P.O. Box 20, Paw Paw, MI 49079.

If you would like to attend, but require transportation assistance, please call Bill Anderson at 248-881-6510.

Any questions, please contact Pat Mehl at 269-217-1253 or email [Pat.M.VCCA@gmail.com](mailto:Pat.M.VCCA@gmail.com).

-----  
I will be attending \_\_\_\_\_ Number in party \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Amount enclosed \$5 x persons: \_\_\_\_\_

Names \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

I need help with transportation: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

I can help with Transportation: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail reservation form with fee to: Pat Mehl, P.O. Box 20, Paw Paw, MI 49079

# Michigan Auto Events Calendar

## MARCH

- 1 Sat Points and Condenser Preservation Society, Milliken Warehouse, Ypsilanti, MI  
 16 Sun Eastside A's Swap Meet, Russ Milne Ford, Macomb

## APRIL

- 5 Sat Points and Condenser Preservation Society, Milliken Warehouse, Ypsilanti, MI  
 13 Sun Monroe Spring Swap Meet, Monroe County Fairgrounds, Monroe, MI  
 13 Sun **LMR Membership Meeting, Monroe, MI 3 p.m. – Z259 Conference Rm, Lay-z-Boy Center, MCComm College**  
 26 Sat **LMR Spring Awards Banquet, Brookshire Golf Club, Williamston, MI 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

## MAY

- 5 Sat Points and Condenser Preservation Society, Milliken Warehouse, Ypsilanti, MI  
 9-10 **Fri-Sat LMR Spring Dustoff Tour Monroe, Manchester, Grass Lake**  
 18 Sun Back to the Bricks (BttB) Dustoff'Em Off Car Show, Dort Financial Center, Flint, MI  
 24 Sat Rochester Festival of Cars, Rochester Municipal Park, Rochester, MI  
 31-1 Sat-Sun Michigan Antique Festival Car Show & Swap Meet, Midland, MI

## JUNE

- 7 Sat Saginaw Valley Region, AACA Car Show, Crossroads Village, Flint, MI  
 7 Sat Points and Condenser Preservation Society, Milliken Warehouse, Ypsilanti, MI  
 8 Sun Blue Water Region, AACA Car Show, Marysville Park, Marysville, MI  
 14-15 Sat-Sun Motor Muster, Greenfield Village, Dearborn, MI  
 28-29 Sat-Sun Sloan Summer Fair, Sloan Museum, Flint, MI  
 29 Sun **LMR Membership Meeting, Sloan Museum, Flint, 1 p.m.**

\*All dates subject to change. Please see the Chevy Chatter or G&D for updated information.

### Happy Birthday!

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Jill Anderson   | 18 Theresa Maveal   |
| 2 Marth Bamfield  | 19 Mary Samulski    |
| 3 Jim Schott      | 20 Mable Beam       |
| 4 Matt Dickinson  | 22 Gary Mehl        |
| 5 Darrell Hammond | 22 Victor Pitcavage |
| 10 Pamela Nagy    | 24 Diane Latora     |
| 11 Gerry Bryce    | 26 Bob Beam         |
| 14 Bill Anderson  | 27 Mary Jo Klock    |
| 15 Mike McFarland | 29 William Bissell  |
| 16 Cathy Sweet    |                     |
| 17 Bob Gardner    |                     |
| 17 Jo Carpenter   |                     |

### Happy Anniversary!

- Mike McFarland & Mary Samulski  
 March 4, 2000  
  
 Bill & Sue Weinberg  
 March 26, 1955

### Welcome!

- David Brummel of Holland, MI  
 he has a whole stable of Chevrolets from  
 1939 - 2015

## 2025 Board of Directors

- |                |               |                       |              |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Director       | Bill Anderson | old50grit@gmail.com   | 248-881-6510 |
| Asst. Director | Tim Mehl      | TLMehl54@hotmail.com  |              |
| Secretary      | Daria Jusela  | Daryajusela@gmail.com |              |
| Treasurer      | Pat Mehl      | Pat.M.VCCA@gmail.com  |              |

### Members-At-Large

- |                |                          |                                  |
|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Andy Mehl      | phantomman69@yahoo.com   |                                  |
| Pam Mehl       | RealBrownEyes2@yahoo.com |                                  |
| Bill Jusela    | wjusela@comcast.net      |                                  |
| Jim Karras     | JimKarras@aol.com        |                                  |
| Ex-Officio     | Brian Granger            | GrangerB59@yahoo.com             |
| Membership     | Bill Anderson            | old50grit@gmail.com              |
| Chatter Editor | Tim Reinke               | treinke@gmail.com (989) 513-5129 |
| Sunshine       | Denice Thomas            | Denicet10345@yahoo.com           |
| Historian      | Bruce Granger            | Brucegranger@yahoo.com           |
|                | Brian Granger            | GrangerB59@yahoo.com             |
| Awards         | Corrie Mehl              | Mehlon7@hotmail.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 \$50 yearly.*

# Thank you to the following sponsor of the LMR Chevy Chatter

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Richmond, MI 48062  
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