

A u g u s t 2 0 2 5

CHEVY CHATTER



Lower Michigan Region

In Loving Memory

Rod Thomas (VCCA# 6358) passed away suddenly while recovering from surgery on Saturday August 2nd. He will receive Military Honors at a graveside service at a later date. He joined the VCCA in 1971 and was an active member of our region until his passing. A full obituary will be printed in the September Chevy Chatter.

Arlie “Mike” Frank Kaskinen

We have received word that Arlie “Mike” Kaskinen, of Bear Lake, MI, former VCCA member, father of member Michael (Lisa) Kaskinen, and uncle of member Rick Kaskinen, died July 4, 2025, at the age of 89.



Mike was the son of J. Ferdinand and Siami (Halgelberg) Kaskinen, and previously resided in Beulah. He is survived by his wife Doris Higley, daughter Karen (Tim) O’Brien, sons Mike and Steven (Jill) Kaskinen, seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. Mike is preceded in death by his parents, his first wife Nancy, and his siblings.

Mike co-owned Kaskinen Auto Supply and Manistee Automotive. As an avid vintage car collector, he was proud to have owned several vintage Chevys, among them a 1939 Chevy, which earned an award when he attended the VCCA Central Meet in 2024. He also was part of the Kaskinen entourage during our Mothball tour in September 2024.



His funeral services were July 16 in Beulah. Memorial contributions can be made to the Eden Bible Church Funeral Luncheon Committee, or The Alzheimer’s Association/Dementia Society of America.

Important Announcements!

Back to the Bricks is August 16th Downtown Flint. We have a reserved spot on 2nd Street as usual. If you plan to attend please contact Brian Granger (810) 348-5198 or grangerb59@yahoo.com.

The mothball tour will be hosted by Matt Dickenson in the Muskegon area on Sept 25-27th. Look to page 5 for more details and a sign up form. RSVP by September 15th

2025 LMR Summer Picnic

Photos by Bill Anderson, Story by Tim Reinke

On July 20th, Jim and Sabrina Karras were our hosts for the summer picnic. With the help of their many family members it was a terrific event. The weather was perfect. Attendees included, our hosts, Bill and Sue Anderson, Bill Jusela, Bruce and Brian Granger, Dave Rickabus, Jim and Verna Schott with their Granddaughter Vanessa and Robin and Tim Reinke.

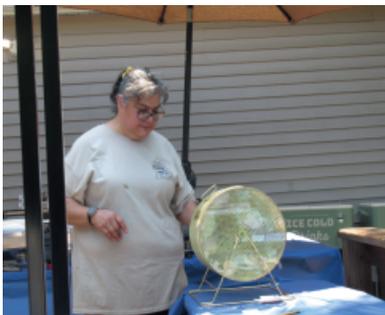
Jim and Sabrina led us on an hour-and-a-half tour through rural Isabella county and gave each one of us a scavenger hunt for things to keep our eyes open for including, little stores, farms and other roadside oddities.



After the tour we were treated to a most excellent meal that included BBQ ribs and Chicken, hot dogs and homemade chili sauce, hamburgers with Jim's homemade burger sauces, salad, melon and most importantly ICE CREAM.



At the end of it all, a drawing was done for gift baskets and a grand prize which was a stay at the Soaring Eagle casino.



4 Cylinder Tour June 22nd-26th 2025

By Daria Jusela



Touring through Colorado

Top Picture: Every car on the tour, 1914-1928

Bottom Right: Bill and Daria Jusela driving

Bottom Left: Scenic picture coming home from Black Canyon

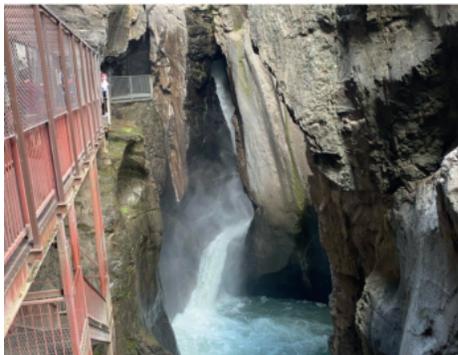
Daily events

- **Sunday, June 22:** Things kick off with an ice cream social at **River Bottom Park** in the early evening.
- **Monday:** A scenic drive through **Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park**, plus a visit to the **Ute Indian Museum**.
- **Tuesday:** Group photos, a trip to **Ridgway** to explore the **Ouray County Agricultural Museum, Ridgway Railroad Museum**, and sights in **Ouray**.
- **Wednesday:** They'll head to **Hotchkiss** and the **National Fish Hatchery** via the east side of Black Canyon Mesa.
- **Thursday:** The day starts with breakfast at the **Lions Community Building**, followed by visits to the **Montrose County Historical Museum** and the **Museum of the Mountain West**. The tour wraps up with a farewell banquet at the **Elks Lodge**.

TOUR DAYS!!



Bill and Daria Jusela off and away in the 1920 490 Touring, Bill driving and Daria navigating. Collective of pictures going through each tour stop. Top picture is everyone who was there from H-Chapter



2025 Board of Directors

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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.

Mothball Tour 2025

The 2025 Mothball Tour will be centered in Muskegon with 2 nights at the host hotel, Thursday 9/25 and Friday 9/26. The hotel is the Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 1744 Patriot Drive, Muskegon, MI. Please call 231-766-6700 for reservations and ask for the VCC group rate on Thursday of \$135 for a Double Queen (\$140 for Single King), On Friday the rate is \$180 for a double Queen (\$170 for Single King). Breakfast is included. Rooms must be booked by September 4th. After that rooms will be booked on space and rate availability basis. Reservations can be canceled before 6pm, the day prior to arrival.

The following is the Tour itinerary:

Thur. 9/25 Arrive at Hotel in Muskegon, Lakes Mall area (near I-96 & I-31 interchange), breakfast included.

Fri. 9/26 Morning: Cruise to Steve's Antique Auto for a shop tour, Lake Michigan Scenic Drive, White Lake Lighthouse, and lunch in Fremont.



Afternoon: Cruise to Wolf Lake Park and then on to North Beach Park on Lake Michigan, return to hotel.

Sat. 9/27 Cruise to Muskegon's Farmer's Market, Muskegon's Historical Hackley Library to view the replica of the Book of Kells, cruise Pere Marquette Beach Park, lunch in Spring Lake close to I-96 & I-31, return home.



RSVP Please by September 15 to or call me at 206-795-3790

Name(s) _____

Contact Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Driving: _____ Vintage _____ Year _____ Modern

I am planning on arriving: _____ Thursday night

_____ Friday morning at the Fairfield Inn & Suites (we will be departing at 9:00am for Steve's Antique Auto)

I would like to track my mileage: _____ while on tour

_____ to Muskegon from my home _____ return to my home



From Behind the Steering Wheel

with Bill Anderson

Just like that, July sailed past us. We experienced the fire hose version of LMR activities in just two events for club members.

This year's picnic in Mt. Pleasant was hosted by Jim and Sabrina Karras. Wow, what an all 'round pleasant day. First, the location was in the central part of the state so that members had about an equal distance to travel. We started the day with a visit to their Garage workshop to witness a spacious work area with plenty of elbow room for Jim & Sabrina's collection. The driving tour was made for vintage Chevy's on smooth tree lined country roads. We kept busy tracking all the roadside attractions as part of the scavenger hunt. There were prizes for accuracy as well as everyone receiving a goody bag for their participation. The setting at their house was great. Picnic on the backyard deck, prepared by a crew of friends and relatives. Wow, what a wonderful menu. 5 Star dining. Our hosts had everyone voting that we return again next year.



Again, a BIG THANK YOU! Goes out to Jim and Sabrina!



The second big event for July, immediately following the picnic was the 62nd Central Meet in Findlay, Ohio, hosted by the Western Buckeye VCCA region with talented help from the Glass Capitol Region. Another WOW! Event. The Thursday program included tours of Dietsch's Candy (Mostly Chocolate) factory with an end of tour ice cream option. Nothing like mid-morning ice cream. Then it was off to visit two museums, the Hancock County Museum and Findlay's Mazza Museum, and for those who signed up, a mid-afternoon afternoon visit to Gillig Winery, near the hotel, to not only bottle your own souvenir bottle of Central Meet fruit wine, but order a wine sampler of 6 different wines of your choice. Then, about 4 blocks away, the Flag City Corvette group invited us to participate in their Cruise-In at Steak & Shake. And, just because we were dedicated Central Meet participants, we received complimentary Milk Shakes.

Friday was judging day. While enjoying visits with fellow club members, and new acquaintances, a 1931 Model A Pick-up truck with ice cream freezer option shows up to hand out complimentary ice cream for everyone on the show field.

Again, this year they had a "kids choice award", selected by youngsters who attended. Young, 4 year old Myles Lescallete, liked my car. The first time, it was Bennett Jurski who chose my '32 Coach at a previous Central Meet. This time, I received a Kid's Choice award for Rhetta, the '56 Bel Air.



One other highlight of judging day was the class for "Forgotten Rides". Less than ¼ mile up the road from the show field was this neglected gem.



Lower Michigan Region, VCCA 2025 Calendar

AUGUST

- 16 Sat Woodward Dream Cruise
16 Sat **Back to the Bricks – LMR on 2nd St., Flint, MI**

SEPTEMBER

- 5-7 Fri-Sun Frankenmuth Auto Festival, Heritage Park, Frankenmuth, MI
6 Sat Points and Condenser Preservation Society, Milliken Warehouse, Ypsilanti, MI
6-7 Sat-Sun Greenfield Village Old Car Festival, Dearborn, MI
13 Sat Orphan Car Show, Stahl's Automotive Museum, New Haven, MI
14 Sun Cars R Stars, Packard Proving Grounds, Shelby Township, MI
21 Sun Golden Memories Car Show, Sloan Museum, Flint, MI
21 Sun **LMR Meeting (Board – 1 p.m., Membership – 2 p.m.), 2026 Election Nominations**
26-27 Fri-Sat **LMR Mothball Tour, Muskegeon Area, Hosted by Matt Dickinson**

OCTOBER

- 7-10 Tue-Fri AACA Eastern Fall Meet, Car Show and Swap Meet, Hershey, PA
19 Sun Packard Proving Grounds Open House, Shelby Township, MI
26 Sun **LMR Meeting – Board Elections (Board – 1 p.m., Membership – 2 p.m.),
Junction of Hope Restaurant, Layton Corners**

Happy Birthday!

- 2 Diane Bullard
2 Luke Stefanovsky
2 Corrie Mehl
6 Suzi Macaluso
12 Jim Johnson
16 Bill Bullard
16 Helen Hall
17 Corinne Frasure
17 Lisa Kaskinen
21 Tracie Alger
21 Bekka Mehl
23 Sharon Roberts
28 Marvin Granger

Happy Anniversary!

- Luke Stefanovsky & Martha Bamfield
August 1, 1987
Carl & Diane Latora
August 3, 1996
Don & Corinne Frasure
August 13, 2011
Stu & Mary Galbraith
August 22, 1959
Tim & Pat Mehl
August 24, 1973

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