

August 2026



CHEVY Chatter



Lower Michigan Region VCCA

From Behind The Steering Wheel - by Bill Anderson



OK, Time Ran Out! As time to register for the 63rd Central Meet in Flint, August 14, began to run out, a virtual flood of late registrations poured in, with last count approaching 50 classic Chevys.

A one day judged show appears to be popular following a record setting VCCA Anniversary Meet in Rapid City, South Dakota. Record setting if you can call temperatures in excess of 100° F with nary a cloud in the sky, a record. H-m-m-m "and the skies are not cloudy all day....."

Ok, Ok, tell us about the trip. A 1956 Black Bel Air, without A/C, driving the whole way, no trailer to hide in, propelled two sweaty travelers across Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and South Dakota, with a break to sail across Lake Michigan aboard the S.S. Badger Car Ferry. Round trip on the odometer indicated 2500 miles total, including side trips to see the Crazy Horse sculpture in progress and presidents at Mt. Rushmore. Did I mention that there was a scarcity of shade wherever we parked. Also, would you believe, in the land of buffalos that roam, we saw none. Not one buffalo in sight. I think they found the only shade somewhere and it wasn't where we traveled.

So, how did the little car survive the trip? Well, it suffered a bit. Ran a bit hot, hated 10% ethanol gasoline, and vapor locked now and then to summon up a bit of adrenalin in its passengers. Speeds above 60 Mph were a bit much for the cooling system in its current state, so speeds were reduced. Toward the end of the trip, new engine noises began to appear as the radiator started to foam at the mouth when parked hot. Lots of opportunity to perform engine & transmission diagnostics when a spare moment appears in the home schedule. There are two projects in line ahead of this guy.

Enough of the trip. Moving along toward the Central meet, your officers and volunteer crew are putting final touches on the Central meet August 14 and Back to The Bricks show Saturday August 15. Participants will receive an email packet of event information and maps so you/they won't need to digest all the information shortly after arrival on "Show Day" Friday, August 14. By the way, if you have a hankering to be a volunteer for an important task, we can use your talents, be it on show day or in last minute prep. Contact me: 248-881-6510 or email Old50grit@comcast.net.

See you in Flint!

~Bill

LMR & VCCA Upcoming Event Calendar



August 14-15: 63rd VCCA Central Meet - Flint, MI. Two-day mini meet with VCCA class & PCC judging and participation in Back to the Bricks event. Registration form in this edition of Chevy Chatter

September 20: LMR VCCA Meeting - Held during Sloan Golden Memories at Flint Cultural Center, 1310 E Kearsley St, Flint. Board Meeting 1:00 PM; General Meeting 2:00 PM.

October 16-17: Mothball Tour - Home2Suites near Sprinkle Rd and I-94, Kalamazoo Southeast - Tour location information in this edition of Chevy Chatter

October 17: LMR VCCA Meeting - Home2Suites 5185 E. Cork St., Kalamazoo. Board Meeting 8:30 AM; General Meeting 9:00 AM. Elections will be held

Michigan Collector Car Calendar



August 1: 9 AM - 3 PM. KAARC Red Barn Spectacular, Gilmore Car Museum, 6865 Hickory Road, Hickory Corners. Antique & classic car show with over 1,500 show vehicles, a swap meet, and antique campers.

August 1: 9 AM - 11:30 AM. Points & Condensers Monthly Warehouse Gathering, Points & Condensers Preservation Society Warehouse, 888 Railroad St. Ypsilanti. Lecture begins 10 AM.

August 6: 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Wheels of Time – Tracking Chief Pontiac, Pontiac Transportation Museum, 250 W. Pike St., Pontiac. Tim Dye takes everyone on a fantastic journey through the life, legacy, and lasting impact of Chief Pontiac.

August 27: 1:30 PM - 3 PM. Michigan Veteran Homes Car Show, MVH Grand Rapids, 2950 Monroe, NE, Grand Rapids. No entry fee or big prizes, just time to show off your car, enjoy some music, and have a snack with our Heroes.

September 9: 4 PM - 8 PM. Bricks & Bowties Classic Car Show, Vic Canever Chevrolet, 3000 Owen Rd, Fenton, MI. Music by DJ Scott Kool, local food trucks, raffles, 50/50 drawings, and official BTTB merch.

September 12-13: Old Car Festival, Greenfield Village-Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn. America's longest-running antique car show with vehicles from the 1890s-1932.

September 20: 9 AM - 3 PM. Sloan Museum Golden Memories Car Show, Flint Cultural Center, 1310 E Kearsley St, Flint. Exclusively for original or authentically-restored vehicles 1976 or earlier.

October 6-9: Antique Automobile Club of America Eastern Fall Meet, Hershey Region Headquarter, 100 Hersheypark Drive, Hershey, PA 1310 E Kearsley St, Flint. The meet has over 9,000 vendors, over 1,000 cars for sale in the car corral, and over 1,200 cars at the car show.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



August Birthdays

Diane Bullard - 08/02
Luke Stefanovsky - 08/02
Corrie Mehl - 08/02
Bill Bullard - 08/16
Helen Hall - 08/16
Corinne Frasure - 08/17

Lisa Kaskinen - 08/17
Tracie Alger - 08/21
Bekka Mehl - 08/21
Sharon Roberts - 08/23
Michael Horton - 08/26
Marvin Granger - 08/28

August Anniversaries

Carl & Dian Latora - 08/03
Don & Corinne Frasure - 08/13
Stu & Mary Galbraith - 08/22
Tim & Pat Mehl - 08/24

Happy Anniversary

Save the Date - 63rd Central Meet - August 14th & 15th

The Lower Michigan Region, VCCA, is the 63rd Annual Central Meet Host, in conjunction with Flint's Back to the Bricks (BttB) car show.

This is a 2-day Mini-Meet and registration will feature a Free Friday admission to Sloan Museum, and C.S. Mott's Applewood Estate. Longway Planetarium admission is available for a \$10 fee.

On Saturday, our Vintage Chevrolets will be featured with special premium parking on the brick paved Saginaw Street's Flat Lot.

While at the show, you can visit Durant Dort Factory One, two blocks away, which is the birthplace of General Motors, and where the Buick Club has the Vintage Buicks on the Bricks display. The Factory One office shows a video history of General Motors all day. Free lecture about Buicks and the History of Flint is presented at 1 PM. Four Indianapolis Pace Cars will be on display. The Engineers who developed and prepped the cars for 1975, 1976, 1981, and 1983 will share their experiences.



63rd Central Meet

Back to the BRICKS



August 14 & 15, 2026

Celebrate your Chevy's Heritage in Flint, Michigan
Birthplace of General Motors

2 Day Mini Meet
Class Judging
BBQ Banquet

Free:

Sloan Museum Entry
Factory One Tours
Downtown Car Show
Featuring VCCA Vehicles

Registration: lmrvcca.org
Email: lmrchevy@gmail.com
Phone: 248-881-6510



Central Meet Schedule



Friday, August 14, 2026

9:00 AM Check-In At Cultural Center

Whiting Auditorium North End

Receive Packet

(No Meet Check-in at Hotel)

Parking :

Trailers & Support Vehicles park

adjacent to Show Field

9:00 AM—1:00 PM

Field Entrance Check

Show Field Parking

12:30 PM—4:00 PM

Judging

4:00—5:00 PM Best of Show Selection

6:00—8:00 PM BBQ & Awards Presented

Friday Night Parking Opportunities:

Cars: Host Hotel

Trailers: Flint Cultural Complex

Overnight Security monitored parking at Central Meet show

field, Flint Cultural complex, near Whiting Auditorium

Details forthcoming. Participants will be notified by email.

Saturday, August 15, 2026

6:00—8:00 AM Show Cars Arrive &

Park at Flat Lot

Enter south on Chavez Service Drive

to FIRST Street, turn right,

go across Harrison St. to north side entrance

Trailer parking in University

of Michigan "Harrison lot"

5:00 PM Show Officially Ends

Hotel: Comfort Inn & Suites

1359 Grand Point Court

Grand Blanc (Flint), Michigan

Phone: 810-498-3429

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/MH20U3>

Code: Vintage Chevrolet Club

HOTEL REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

July 16, 2026



August 14-15, 2026

Hosted by: LMR VCCA

Each Registrant will receive maps via Email or USPS.

Meet registration (without merchandise) is due no later than Aug. 1, 2026.



JOIN US FOR THE 2026 ANNUAL FALL MOTHBALL TOUR!

We have some interesting stops arranged for our Lower Michigan Region annual Fall Mothball Tour, to take place on Friday, October 16, and Saturday, October 17, 2026.

Make your reservations to arrive as early as Thursday, October 15, checking out by Sunday, Oct 18th, using this link: <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/azoosht-vcc-e5674876-bd87-4c39-b3ea-8869c6fc9651/>. We have arranged for you to stay at a brand-new Hilton Home2Suites, located at the intersection of Sprinkle Road and I-94 in eastern Kalamazoo. Rates are \$139.00 for either a single King, or double Queen Studio Suite. Breakfast is included.

Friday's tour will start from the Home2Suites and take us south to visit at least two venues:

1. Waldron Vintage Exhausts, Centreville, MI - a successful exhaust system manufacturing company, in business since 1960
2. The personal collection of Bill and Cindy MacDaniels in Bronson, MI.
3. Lunch somewhere along the way 😊
4. Kalamazoo Air Zoo - to visit their restoration shop, as well as a general tour.

We will be having our annual ELECTIONS membership meeting at the Home2Suites on Saturday morning, beginning at 8:30 a.m. We ask that even if you cannot tour with us, that you attend and cast your vote for our Board of Directors candidates.

Our second day of touring will begin after the meeting.

Saturday's tour will have us heading north to visit the following sites:

1. Kellogg Manor House, located on the north end of Gull Lake
2. Lunch nearby
3. Gilmore Museum - yes, we've done this before, but we know you will enjoy their latest exhibition of cars from the Joe Bortz Collection, called the GM Motorama Marvels.

If you choose to spend Saturday night in Kalamazoo, we can help you find additional ways to enjoy the area, including suggestions for dinner.

We ask that you fill out a registration form for this event. Admission to the Kalamazoo Air Zoo and the Gilmore Museum will be "on your own" - paid at the door.

Any questions or concerns about the tour? Please contact Pat Mehl (269-217-1253 or Pat.M.VCCA@gmail.com). Hope to see you soon!

COMPLETE AND SEND THIS FORM TO LMRVCCA



Member Number _____

Name _____ Driving: Vintage _____

Phone Number _____ Modern _____

Email _____

Spouse Name (if attending) _____

Other Guest(s) Attending _____

My party will join the tour on: Friday Morning _____ Friday Afternoon _____

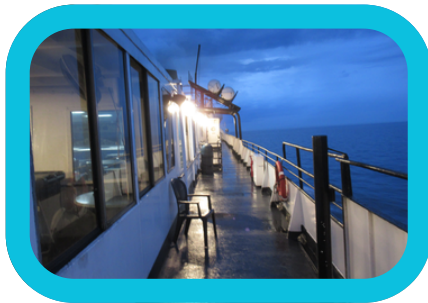
(Check all that apply) Saturday Morning _____ Saturday Afternoon _____

Registration fee: \$15 (to cover donations and entry fees, other than Kalamazoo Air Zoo and Gilmore Car Museum). Please send a check made out to LMR-VCCA, along with this registration, to Pat Mehl, P.O. Box 20, Paw Paw, MI 49079. Please mail no later than Oct. 1, 2026.

LMR Activity Highlights - 65th Anniversary Meet to Rapid City, SD - Photos by Bill Anderson



SS Badger Ferry in Ludington, MI



SS Badger Evening Crossing Lake Michigan



SS Badger Passenger Lounge



The Famous Wall Drug Store, Wall SD



Inside Wall Drug



Fire Henge



Mt. Rushmore



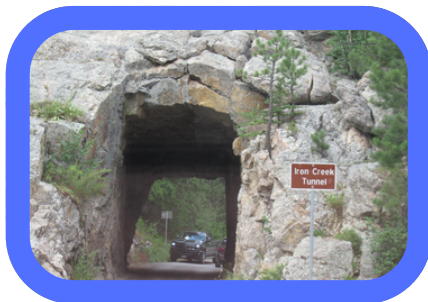
Michigan Tourists at Mt. Rushmore



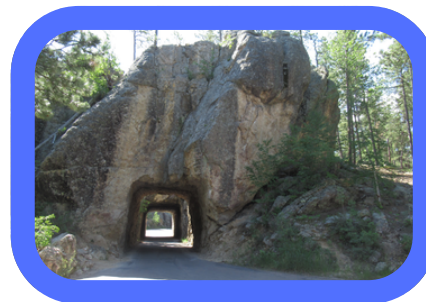
Crazy Horse Memorial



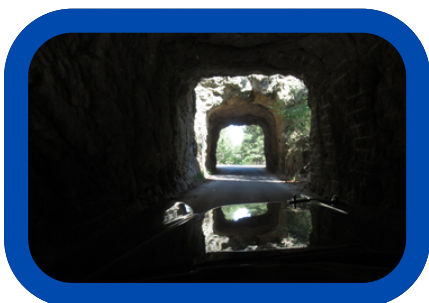
Crazy Horse Memorial



Iron Creek Tunnel



Iron Creek Tunnel



Iron Creek Tunnel



West Coast Friends Meet Again



Awards Presentation

LMR Activity Highlights - 65th Anniversary Meet to Rapid City, SD - Photos by Bill Anderson



Recognizing Mary James Hard Work



Long Time Anniversary Meet Attendees



A Rare Sight-Free Gas Station Air



Field Entrance Check



Show Field



Show Field



Show Field



Finding Shade in All The Right Places



Evening Fun



Auction Item-Anniversary Meet Banner



Dave is Always Peddling Something



Tabulators With Chief Judge



Dave Miner Appraising Chevy Tools



I'd Say These Tools Are Worth Double What You Paid For Them



See this mark? Tool Manufacturers I.D. mark. Very rare for this tool.

LMR Activity Highlights - 65th Anniversary Meet to Rapid City, SD - Article & Photos by Bill Jusela

Our trip started out on July 6, only 4 days after my formal retirement from the working grind. My daughter Daria and her boyfriend, Frankie, went with me on this adventure. On the way out, we decided to make a couple of tourist stops.



The first was mostly a gas stop, but included a visit to the adjacent Iowa 80 Truck Stop Truck Museum, Walcott, IA. Very nice collection of trucks. Included were a 1932 Chevy Wrecker and a rare 1945 Chevy moving truck (tractor/trailer).



Our next tourist stop was at the Pioneer Auto Museum, Murdo, SD. Very extensive collection. Unfortunately the original collector enthusiast, a local Ford dealership owner, passed away a couple years ago. The family is continuing the museum, but its long term future is uncertain. So, if you're passing by, stop while you are still able.

A few pictures from there: Custom Nash out front of the museum, All Mahogany car and the original General Lee. Do you see Bo and Luke Duke, aka Daria and Frankie?



And of course, anyone traveling I-90 through SD, stops at Wall Drug where coffee is still 5 cents, and water is free. Although I don't know how anyone could drink coffee when it's 100+ degrees outside.



Then on to Spearfish for the 4 & early 6 cylinder tour (up through 1935). The evening on the first day starts out with group photos of the cars and participants, then an ice cream social at a local park.

The first full tour day started early with the first leg taking us up through Spearfish Canyon and on to Hill City (about 2 ½ hour ride) to catch a ride on the 1880 train which departs at 9am. Weather was uncomfortably cool in the open touring car (we under-dressed) that morning (low 60s), but arrived on time to catch the train. The train took us up to Keystone for a couple hours shopping and sightseeing, then return to Hill City. The cool weather turned glooming by then, ie. Rain. I don't recommend driving an open car in a downpour, but we didn't have much alternative but to press on - Until... On a long uphill (yes in the rain), we had to stop to grab a lower gear and before we could get moving again - BANG from under the car. The rear differential went - pulled the torque tube bolts right out of the differential. Our tour in the old car was done. I still need to pull it apart to inspect the full extent of the damage. The hope is that by the torque tube pulling out of the differential like it did, is that more extensive damage may have been averted - we'll see.



LMR Activity Highlights - 65th Anniversary Meet to Rapid City, SD - Article & Photos by Bill Jusela

Mind you, this was still during the rain storm, and to up it another notch, there was no cell coverage in that area. We caught several others on the way behind us to call for the rescue truck when they got to a cell signal. We did have a passerby stop and check on us, and gave me a ride a couple miles to the top of the hill where we could get a cell signal and got the word out to send the rescue truck.

Unfortunately this year, I wasn't the only one with trouble, just one of the more severe ones. About a 1/3 of the vehicles were overcome with troubles, such as water pumps, ignition, carburetor/fuel, steering linkage, etc. Some were able to be repaired and carry on, others not so much.



The rest of the Tour week was done with the 'cool' kids - in the air conditioned truck. Other than that first tour day, the rest of the trip was over 100 degrees every day, so the 'cool' kids ride was a mixed blessing. We stopped at Devil's Tower, Deadwood, Lead (pronounced LEED) and Sturgis for more sight-seeing. The motorcycle rally in Sturgis isn't until August.



On the morning that we departed for Rapid City, the Tour group met for a pancake breakfast at another local park. Last year, Daria was appointed head chef. Apparently she runs a tight kitchen. See picture.

Then onto Rapid City for the Anniversary meet.

Show day topped out at 105. While the 1920 was in the trailer (differential) for the rest of the trip, the 1916 came out for the show. There was a reason I volunteered to judge undercarriage that day. A few minutes in the shade under each car - OH YEAH !



And a few more tours, with the 'cool' kids... Up to Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse, Custer State park along Needles highway (beautiful granite spires) and wildlife including Bison, wild donkeys and pronghorn antelope and more. We stopped at Wind Cave national park, but when we arrived, the tours were sold out for the day.

The banquet was nice and a great place to see everyone and say "see you next time". The trip home was uneventful.

Now to get ready for the Central meet in a couple weeks. I'm in the process of making the 'Best Of' era trophies for that meet. And then I can settle into retirement pace, whatever that means <LOL>.

FOR SALE! LMRVCCA Member Classifieds!

FOR SALE

1927 Chevy Coach
2-door Sedan

1932 Chevy Coach
2-door Sedan

\$33,000 for the pair



Both are older complete restorations. The '27 is dove gray and Mack truck green, the '32 is painted in its original color of Serge blue with cream yellow pin stripping. All complete new body wood, Hampton Coach interiors, new safety glass, engine, transmission, differential rebuild, etc. Not perfect but very presentable. Located in Michigan's upper peninsula, about 30 miles east of the Mackinac Bridge. (Will separate - Ask for price)

Stu Galbraith, VCCA #25815. Phone # (906) 207-3444.

Chevy Chatter Publication Information

The Chevy Chatter is published every month. Ads and other contributions from members are welcome for publication in the Chevy Chatter. The deadline for all contributions is the 15th of every month. To submit material send via email to editor@lmrvcca.org or via mail to Editor at 2876 W. Wing Road, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858. Newsletter Editor is Sabrina Karras.

2026 LMR Leadership

2026 Officers

Bill Anderson - Director
Tim Mehl - Assistant Director
Daria Jusela - Secretary
Bill Jusela - Treasurer

2026 At-Large Board Members

Jim Karras
Matt Dickinson
Sabrina Karras

2026 Committee Chairs

Pat Mehl - Membership
Sabrina Karras - Chevy Chatter Editor
Bruce Granger - Historian
Jim Karras - Webmaster

National VCCA Board Representative

Joseph Razumich, #51086, Director - Area 7B - Central



LOWER MICHIGAN REGION

VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

2026 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 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 VCCA NATIONAL DUES ARE \$50.00, Print Magazine: \$35 Digital Magazine: \$5 Next Gen, Digital Magazine

Your National VCCA # _____

National expiration date _____

LOWER MICHIGAN DUES: (Multiple year dues accepted)

___ \$25/yr. Email Newsletter

___ \$30/yr. USPS (Printed) Newsletter

___ \$5/yr. Next Generation (Younger than 25 Years old), Email Newsletter

All region members will receive a monthly newsletter, January - December. Event Calendar and Club activities will be posted in the monthly newsletter. Membership renewal dues need to be received by mid-January.

Member 1 _____ Member 2 _____

Birthdays (mo/day) Mbr 1 _____ Mbr 2 _____ Anniv mo/day/yr _____

Summer Address _____ Dates of Res _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Winter Address _____ 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

Attn: Pat Mehl

P.O. Box 20

Paw Paw, MI 49053

Renewal via Website using Credit Card:

<https://lmrvcca.org>

Via USPS: Checks Payable to:

VCCA Lower Michigan Region

Questions? Call 269-217-1253