

# *Mid America Chevelle Club*

## *June 2012 Newsletter*





# MACC June 2012 NEWSLETTER



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## **General Information**

The club is a not-for-profit Kansas corporation, dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of all Chevelles and El Caminos. Ownership of a Chevelle or associated vehicle is not required. Club newsletters which include minutes of meetings, upcoming events, and technical articles are also found on club's website and are forwarded to members. Business meetings are convened on the last Thursday of each month, with the possible exceptions of November and December, for the purpose of discussing and planning future club events. The meetings begin at 7:00 p.m., at Superior Chevrolet, 8300 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Merriam, Kansas unless otherwise noted in the newsletter or on the club's website. Members may advertise vehicles/parts for sale, trade, or wanted in the newsletter for no charge. Call the editor (Mike Stites) at 913/485-7368 or email at [Michael.stites@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Michael.stites@sbcglobal.net)

## **Board Information**

(2010-2011 term)

<b>Chair:</b>	Roger Verstraete	(913) 207-3374
<b>Co-Chair:</b>	Ed Smoot	(913) 636-2002
<b>At-Large:</b>	Danny McKarnin	(620) 363-1005
<b>Secretary:</b>	Debra Gragg	(913) 782-8776
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Eugene Hallouer	(913) 248-0288
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Mike Stites	(913) 485-7368
<b>Social Events:</b>	Rocky & Shari Hill	(913) 915-1231

## **Monthly Meeting Agenda**

Monthly meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m., at Superior Chevrolet, 8300 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Merriam, Kansas. **JUNE ALTERNATE MEETING LOCATION: Old Shawnee Pizza**

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Introductions
- 3) Reports/Discussion
- 4) Upcoming Events
- 5) Upcoming Events
- 6) Report of Treasurer
- 7) Additional Items
- 8) Car Talk
- 9) Comments/Suggestions
- 10) Adjournment
- 11) Dine out



## **May 2012 Meeting Minutes**

Prior to the meeting, the members participated in a potluck meal. The meeting was called to order by Chair Roger Verstraete at 7:55 p.m. at the Rocky and Shari Hill residence.

The minutes for the April meeting were accepted.

Thanks were offered to Dan Yuran for allowing the use of his garage prior to the May club picnic at Lake Lenexa. Thanks were also offered to John Roudebush for taking pictures at the event. Thanks were also provided to members for all actions to provide for cooking food, securing site, and serving the dishes. It was agreed to schedule another picnic in 2013 at same time-frame and location.

It was reported that some of the members have not paid dues for the upcoming club year.

It was noted there would be a caravan leaving for Chevell-A-Bration at 6:00 a.m. , June 6 at the McDonald's at 151<sup>st</sup> and I-35.

The Springfield, MO Midwest Chevelle Regionals were discussed.

The members were informed of the Independence, MO car cruise on Saturdays at Blue Parkway and 291 Highway.

It was noted construction is still underway at Superior Chevrolet and the next meeting would convene at Old Shawnee Pizza and Pasta.

Upcoming club events were announced by the Hill's:

Holyfield Winery – June 1

Car Cruises, set up by Dick and Judy Rule – information will be e-mailed to members

Jamie Holly indicated he would check on the Leavenworth Cruise night.

Airport Cruise – June 16

Paola Car Show – June 23

Dean Call stated he would post the cruises and shows on the website.

Treasurer Eugene Hallouer provided the treasurer's report and indicated there are 53 paid memberships.

Members were informed there are new business cards and show fliers available.

The upcoming Mid-America ACES Chevelle Show was briefly discussed, noting vendors would include Classic Keyless, kettle corn and lemonade.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Submitted by: Debra S. Gragg, Secretary



## **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

**June 29 -30** – Mid-West Chevelle Regional in Springfield, MO. If you are going and are interested in traveling as a group we are going to meet at the Quick Trip at I-435 and Roe and depart at 8:30 a.m..

**August 24-25** – Mid America Chevelle Club and the Wichita Club Picnic in Iola, KS

August 24<sup>th</sup> – For those wishing to arrive early and spend the evening the host hotel is the Best Western Inn, 1315 N State Street, Iola Ks 66749 Phone 620-365-5161 Toll Free 800-780-7234 (room discount). Mixer and dinner at one of two on property restaurants followed by a driving tour of Iola and Allen County.

August 25<sup>th</sup> – picnic with catered BBQ meal (~cost \$8) plus a tour of a local car collector museum complete with a 1966 Chevelle.

**September 21-22** - ACES Mid-America Chevelle Regional

## **President's Column**

With the big summer holiday coming up soon I just want to wish everyone a safe Fourth of July. This is the time of year we celebrate our nation's freedom. This holiday always brings back a lot of memories of past summers that we have celebrated. For me, as a kid, it was blowing the money I made during the summer working on my dad's truck farm, setting off M-80 and black cats, and other nighttime fireworks. As I get older, it is the respect I have for those who have served our country, and for those who are still serving it now, fighting to make our country safe.

Someone once said, "freedom is not free" and that is so true today. I think all of us know someone that has served our country during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. If you get a chance, tell them "Thank You" for their service and sacrifice they have made to our country.

Roger

## **VP's Corner**

There are many Chevelle related outings that I look forward to every year- The club picnic, Halloween party, Christmas party, and of course, Chevella-bration. This year, I made my annual pilgrimage to Goodlettsville, Tennessee with several of my friends from the Mid America Chevelle Club. It was quite an adventure, and here's how it went.

We departed Olathe, Kansas on Wednesday morning at 6a.m. John and Debra Gragg, Rick Byfield, Stephen Boone and yours truly all met at the McDonalds in Olathe, hatched a planned route to follow, and headed out. We motored along smoothly until about Boonville, MO, when I heard a scraping noise from under the hood that kind of came and went. Stephen and I debated about what it might be, and ultimately decided to pull off and check it out. Upon raising the hood on my bright yellow '72 El Camino, it was obvious that something was amiss. The whole front of the motor was covered in grease, which was the result of the fan clutch deciding to let go. Thankfully we caught it in time to keep it from going through the radiator! It was still cool out that morning, so we phoned ahead to the caravan, pulled the fan off, and motored on a couple of exits until we met the rest of the gang in a shared O'Reilly/ Napa parking lot. Rick was nice enough to have purchased a replacement fan clutch to speed things up, but to no avail. It appears that the fan clutch that I had been running must have been cobbled off of a '36 Studebaker or something, because when the 80 year old guy working the counter "aint never seen one like that", it must be a rare bird. Rather than pursue the albatross of a fan clutch all day, I opted for an electric fan swap in the parking lot, wire tied a fuse holder to the battery, and off we went.





Same day, a few hours later: Stephen and I were in a heavy discussion about Dave Ramsey, when at 75 miles per hour I hear another noise. This one is more of a rattling than anything else, so I take a quick scan of the gauges and find that we have no oil pressure. After pulling over post haste on the interstate, a quick check of the dipstick showed no trace of oil. Luckily, when you are traveling with a 6 foot bed attached to your Chevelle, you tend to carry stuff like tools and oil. Three and a half quarts of the good stuff later, we were on our way once again! We cruised into Goodlettsville with no other issues, hit the car wash, and checked in at the hotel.

Day two went off without a hitch. After stopping at the local Kroger for supplies, we hit the show field. The Graggs set up camp under a close shade tree, and we had a great day of hanging out and car talk. Seminars throughout the day kept the interested parties busy, and the swap meet area and marketplace area was hopping. Several of us decided to try a "Bubba Burger", which was served from a food truck on the fairgrounds. A half-pound burger stuffed with cheese on the inside was a messy deal, but worth the napkins required to eat it. The real action kicked up after the show field closed, with a long, but scenic cruise to Music City Raceway. It was all Chevelle action for a good part of the evening at the drag strip, with our own Rick Byfield giving it all his LS motor had. It was a great show, with the famous "70" Red Alert" making a few passes, and some exciting match racing.

Friday started off in pretty much the same fashion as the day before. Some pretty informative seminars were on for the day, with the highlights being a Q&A with Detroit Speed, and an in-depth how-to on LS swaps put on by the Holley guys. They've really got the LS swap thing down, and offer a lot of supporting hardware to ease the transition.

Shortly after the conclusion of the seminars, I was summoned to the DJ booth at the manufacturer's midway. I had been entered into a heated match of "hillbilly horseshoes" (read: toilet seat toss) by my good friend Rick. From a field of about 8 participants, good 'ol Rick emerged victorious, garnering a trophy and everything. We should all be so proud.

The after-show activity for tonight was the autocross. Anyone willing to join in the fun had their cars tech inspected, and walked the course, getting ready for action. Both Rick and John, ran the course, with John posting his fastest time on his second pass. Not to be outdone, Rick enlisted the help and guidance of Kyle from Detroit Speed. A few cones and 23 tries later, Rick bested John that poor parking lot may never be the same.







Saturday is pretty much a wrap up day on the show field, with all the voting completed on Friday. Participants are encouraged to park where they like, with their club members or friends. Hanging out and shooting the breeze is the order of the day, with show wrap-up in the early afternoon. We all proceeded to the awards tent, where Chuck Hansen expressed his gratitude to all of those who attended. Top 3 awards were given to the participant judged winners in their respective years. In the '71 modified class, both Rick and the Graggs took home plaques. Congrats guys- you've done us proud!

Saturday evening wrapped up in classic fashion, with a Cajun Jambalaya feed for charity in the hotel parking lot. Great food, great friends, and for a great cause- it doesn't get much better in my book.

Early Sunday, we packed it up and headed for home. A light drizzle showered us out of Tennessee, but the skies brightened shortly after hitting the highway. Other than a slow crawl through some road construction on the way home that produced some 260+ degrees on the temp gauge, the trip home was smooth sailing and uneventful. Only a case of oil used for the 1200 mile round trip



(that's roughly a quart every hundred miles for those of you keeping track at home), and one fan clutch fatality- well worth the trouble to take my 40 year old cruiser back to the promised land for a great car show. Thanks to everyone that went with us, those that met us down there, and to my co-pilot that kept me awake for all those miles. For those of you that missed it- we hope to do it again next year- you should join us!

Hope to see you all soon!

Ed

### **New Members / Renewals**

Please welcome our newest members: John & Christine Hilbert Olathe KS. The Hilbert's have a 1971 Chevelle

Renewals: Joe & Carol Pithan

### **June Events**

**June 1** – Holy Field Winery

Several club members traveled to Holy Field Winery in Basehor, KS for some spirits and music with the David Basse Orchestra.



## June 16 – Independence Cruise

This cruise happens every Saturday night throughout the summer. Several MACC members made the trip on the 16<sup>th</sup>. There are usually several hundred cars in attendance. If you missed out on the June cruise I'm sure Rocky and Shari will be adding this as a repeat event.



Above right: Picture from the May meeting at the Hill ranch. Can you believe we were in jackets and opted to conduct the business meeting inside. Now we're dealing with temperatures and heat indexes in the triple digits.

## June 7 – 9 Chevell A' Bration

See also the VP's column.

Several MACC members made the journey to Goodlettsville, TN for the festivities. The weather was near perfect while traveling and at the show – no real rain, no heat and lots of sunshine.

Right: Ed Smoot's Elky made the trip to Goodlettsville.

Below: Some of the crew with the cars at the drag strip parking lot.







Above: Byfield boiling the hides at the track.

Above right: Stephen Boone and John Gragg.

Left: J. W. Gragg in the "big Blue" '71 machine.



## **Project Cars**

If you have a project you would like to share with the club send photos and notes or give me a call (Newsletter Editor – Mike Stites) and I can get some shots and information for the Newsletter.

## **Tech Article**

Chasing horsepower

If you are trying to produce more horsepower or just trying to get more horsepower to your rear wheels, Roger found the below articles that might be of interest. One deals with losing horsepower thru your drive train, and the other is about power loss and gain in your exhaust system.

<http://www.dapa.org/drag-racing-with-jim-hand-part-12-exhaust-system-update/>

[http://www.carcraft.com/techarticles/ccrp\\_0311\\_drivetrain\\_power\\_loss/viewall.html](http://www.carcraft.com/techarticles/ccrp_0311_drivetrain_power_loss/viewall.html)



## **For Sale**

**Items for 1970-72** –BF Goodrich G-Force TA 245/45 ZR 17 tires (4 total), \$240.00; Edelbrock round stainless exhaust tips, \$50.00; '71-'72 sport steering wheels, 3 black – 1 red, \$25.00 each; one (1) pair new B-body tall spindels \$100; two (2) big block one (1) piece rear main flex plates (new), free; new trunk seal, \$10.00; two (2) A/C spark plug telephones, \$50.00 each; GM big block, factory crate engine aluminum manifold, \$50.00; Pair energy suspension motor mounts, black and chrome short/wide, \$75.00; 1972 Engine Wiring Harness, \$150.00; 1972 Headlight Wiring Harness, \$150.00; Complete Set Window Fuzzies, \$95.00; Complete set of factory Bucket Seat Brackets, \$50.00; Dash Vents, \$50.00; Rust-free Passenger Door, \$50.00;. Please contact John W. Gragg, 913/782-8776 or e-mail [jgragg5@comcast.net](mailto:jgragg5@comcast.net) if interested or with questions.

## **Current Sponsors**



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