

Mid America Chevelle Club

August 2014 Newsletter



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CHEVROLET
SHAWNEE MISSION

MID-AMERICA
Chevelle
50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
CLUB

WWW.MIDAMERICACHEVELLES.COM

Chevelle
CAR CLUB CAR SHOW
SEPTEMBER 26-27, 2014

MACC August 2014 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 Hendrick 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

Board Information

Chair:	Roger Verstraete
Co-Chair:	Ed Smoot
Secretary:	Gordon & Jackie Gilpin
Treasurer:	Eugene Hallouer
At Large:	Kent Scott
At Large:	John Gragg

Newsletter Editor: Mike Stites

Monthly Meeting Agenda

Monthly meetings are held the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m., at Hendrick Chevrolet, 8300 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Merriam, Kansas.

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Introductions
- 3) Reports/Discussion
- 4) Upcoming Events
- 5) Report of Treasurer
- 6) Additional Items
- 7) Adjournment



July Meeting Minutes

MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB
HENDRICK CHEVROLET, MERRIAM, KS
July 31, 2014
MINUTES

Minutes were called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mike Stites as Roger was recuperating and Kent was substituting for Ed who was absent on a Canadian search and retrieve effort. 19 members were present. The new members attending introduced themselves as did all members present.

Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes from last meeting.

Old business: Roger had earlier requested that we discuss participating in the Wichita, Springfield and Tulsa regional show. Jamie suggested that we table the decision to include 1,000 point judging and decide tonight to participate in the aforementioned regional rotation. Gordon moved that we participate in the rotation every four years and table the discussion of the 1,000 point judging. Motion was seconded and passed.

Meeting presentation today with Hagerty Classic Car Insurance reps: Nichole from the national office and Don who is their local representative. Nichole noted that some flexible insurance options (such as garages to include carports and driveways) are not presently available in our area, but she will notify Mike when those options become available in Kansas and Missouri.

Treasurer report was given by Eugene. We have 61 current members.

Mike says to go on Mid America Chevelle Facebook page to find out who is going to the local shows and cruises. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/328278119565/>

The Fall Color Tour is tentatively scheduled for the third weekend in September.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Gilpin

Calendar of Upcoming Events

See Roger's Column

Note: We are looking for volunteers to help with the Car Show poker run stops for Sept. 26 starting at 5:15 pm. No experience required, just the ability to have fun and write legibly. If you can help out please see Jon Clark.



President's Column

Hi MACC,

Hope everyone is doing well and enjoying this nice summer we are having. For me, the last month has been a real struggle health wise. After two different stays in the hospital where they put four heart stints in and had every test known to man done to me, I can finally say I am starting to feel better. That is a good thing, because Janet had foot surgery about two weeks ago and now it is my turn to help take care of her. So there has been a lot of recovery going on at our house. With all that time off, I been working on all the behind the scenes kind of stuff it takes to put on our car show along with the rest of the car show committee. We believe everything is on schedule for the show and all of us are just waiting to get started on the final preparation for the show.

The schedule for this year's show is the same as in past years. We will have open registration from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. At 5:30 the Cruise and Poker Run will start. Jon Clark and Kent will be running this event this year. If you want to help in this event, please contact them on the day of the show. After the poker run/cruise we will be having our annual Friday night cookout. That will start at 6:30. We are asking members to bring a side dish to go along with the meat the club is providing. If you would like to help cook or help serve food you can contact Ed or me. The Friday night cookout is a way the club shows its appreciation for our out of town guests coming to our show. If you can't bring your car to the car show but want to come by for the Friday night cookout please feel free to do so.

At this month's meeting, I will be going over all the details of this year's show. If you want to help out in any way please feel free to talk to me or Ed about that. We always want to include as many members as we can in the car show and appreciate all the help we can get.

Next month's meeting is the Thursday right before our car show. We might want to do something different for that meeting. This will be discussed at this month's meeting, and the membership will be informed through the newsletter and on our Facebook page. So, please keep an eye out for that.

I have contacted the Midwest Chevelle Regionals group and informed them that we would like to join there organization again. They were really pleased about this, and have awarded us the 2016 Midwest Regional Chevelle Car Show, at a location of our choice. More details are forth coming later.

With September just around the corner, there are a lot of good car shows out there. Here is a list of car shows that I know of that are really good to go to.

Friday, August 29th Wellsville Car Show from 4pm-9pm

<http://www.wellsvillecarshow.org/>

Register before August 27 for FREE registration.

<http://www.wellsvillecarshow.org/show-registration.html>

Saturday, September 6th, Independence, MO: Summer Cruise-In at the Hartman Heritage Center. Jackson Drive next to Buffalo Wild Wings

Saturday, September 13th, 14th Annual Turkey Creek Car and Motorcycle Show

<http://merriam.org/index.aspx?NID=459>

Sunday, September 14th, The 9th Annual Wheels & Dreams Car, Truck and Bike Show will be in downtown Shawnee parts of Johnson Drive and Nieman Road will shut down from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

<http://www.cityofshawnee.org>



Friday & Saturday, SEPTEMBER 20th & 21st, 2014 28th Annual Ol' Marais River Run, Sponsored by the Over the Road Gang, Inc., Box 843, Ottawa, KS 66067

September 26th & 27th the Mid-America Chevelle Club Car Show.

With all these great car shows and cruises and many more that are around at this time of year we need to really make an effort to pass out our car show flyers. This is still the best way to get the word out about our club and car show. I still have a good supply of flyers and will have them on hand at this month's meeting.

I would also like to thank the club for the nice get well card I received in the mail. It's always good to hear from everyone and it was really appreciated. Well that's it for now. Hope to see everyone at this month's meeting.

Roger

Vice President's Column

For the unfortunate few of you that actually read my column, I'm sure you will remember that in July I left you with a real nail-biter of a cliffhanger at the end of my column. Last month, I divulged my plan to retrace my steps back to the land of electronics-free driving, and retrieve my score of Beaumont's found in mosquito laden woods. We also established that I am, indeed, crazy- and I probably shouldn't be allowed out of the country. Our friends to the North would agree as well, and If you want to know why, read on.

Through the power of persuasion and guilt trips, I managed to recruit some help for this run. At O' dark thirty on a Thursday morning, I piled into my Tahoe with my oldest son, Brad and one of his college buddies, Jacob. We were headed north, but only to 435 and I-70 to pick up our last victim- Ron Brightwell. Recently semi-retired, Ron were in for what he had probably hoped to be a nice leisurely drive across the border for some fun and a little R&R. Sucker. We didn't waste much time heading towards the Great White North, only stopping for fast food and fuel- lots of fuel. We found out that while an unloaded Tahoe gets 18-22 MPG at 80 mph, fully loaded and pulling a trailer, that quickly dropped to 6-8 MPG. Needless to say, we did our part to keep the economy afloat by buying fuel and sodas every 150 miles or so. After a solid 12 hours of this, we had made it to the border!

We hit the border, presented our passports, and answered a few redundant questions: "Ever been to Canada?" Yep. "How long are you staying?" Until Saturday. "Why are you here?" To buy car parts. "So you are leaving tonight then?" No, Saturday. I'm assuming that last one was trying to bait us into some kind of timeline flub that would have resulted in cavity searches and a de-lousing. No such luck, Frenchie-even after 12 hours on the road, I'm still sharper than that. We made it across the border, and literally within a mile, I showed my true colors as a stupid American.

We were weaving our way through this small town, watching the road signs, and staying with traffic. As almost everyone in the lower 48 does, I raised my phone and dialed the gentleman that had the cars to let him know that we had made it. No sooner than that electronic nemesis came into view perched a few inches from my head, we were being pulled over. Keep in mind that we had been in Canadian soil for all of 5 minutes. As we pulled into a vacant pothole filled lot and awaited our fate, I vaguely remembered a friend of mine warning me of such actions. The



police gal was completely serious, and seemed genuinely irritated that I could be so careless. I agreed with her on all points, didn't put up a fight, and awaited her to return from her cruiser with my slap on the wrist. As she approached my window, she warned me that they take this offense pretty serious, and that the penalty is pretty steep. Then she handed it to me...\$300! Three hundred bucks? If we adopted this in the States, we'd have the national debt wiped out in no time. I needed a beer.

After a good night's sleep, we arrived at "Beaumont Central" bright and early the next day, to find a wonderful surprise- the owner had already pulled all of the cars out of the woods and had them staged in a clean, shady spot for us! By pulling these things out of the woods, nearly half the work had been done for us, and for that, I was grateful. Since it is nearly impossible to get titled, documented cars across the border, my plan was this: strip all 3 cars to their carcasses and retrieve every useable part that could be had, and scrap the shells. That way, see, we are only bringing back car PARTS, not whole CARS. These hulks had been sitting on their bellies in the forest for the last couple decades, so there wasn't really any value in the bodies, frames, or drive trains. What I was after were the hard-to-find bits that make a Beaumont, well, a Beaumont- and anything else that I deemed useful. So, with marching orders in place, we all had our jobs. Ron's function was to pull all 3 dashes, and any interior parts that we could use. My job, to start, was to pull the rear ends out of all 3 cars. Did you know that nearly all Beaumont's had 12 bolts in them? I did, and they were coming home with us. Brad and Jacob were responsible for chrome trim and body panels, as well as playing with the resident German Shepherd so that Ron and I could keep working. We really made short work of it, and by mid-afternoon, we had made great progress. Ron was finishing up stripping his second interior, and I had moved on to front grilles and marker lights. Then, it happened- we were hit with some odd Canadian kindness.



At about 4pm or so, our host came down to see how we were doing, and asked us if we liked coffee. Ron and I looked at each other. Coffee? 4 o'clock in the States on a Saturday afternoon means Miller Time. "Sure!" we said- and it wasn't long before we were drinking hot coffee and eating warm muffins on this guy's back deck on a warm summer day. Maybe it's their version of an afternoon tea? It was really kind of nice- sitting there and talking to him, and hearing his stories. Turns out that our host was a semi-professional musician that recorded a couple of albums in Nashville in the 90's. This especially fascinated Brad and Jacob- both music majors at Ottawa University. They talked music for a while, then the boys went on a tour of his music dungeon while Ron and I got back to work. Within another hour or so, we were pretty well done for the day, with just a half a car to strip the next day. We called it quits and headed back to the hotel, where we showered and went to the pizza shoppe/ bar next door for a couple of cold ones and an evening of Mecum on the big screen.



Up and at 'em the next day, us "old guys" headed out and got to work while the young 'uns slept in. Now that we had this deal down, it didn't take us any time at all to get the parts we needed off of the last car. We piled everything up, and headed back to the hotel to shower, collect the boys, and check out. All four of us headed back to our makeshift worksite, and started the arduous task of loading all of our "treasures" into the trailer.

Before long, we were walking around and making sure we hadn't left anything good behind. The owner of the property had made contact with the local wrecking yard, and they had agreed to haul off the skeletons for us- even paying a small sum for them, which cancelled out our bill for having them pulled out of the woods. Score!

We said our goodbyes, and I thanked our host for his kindness and generosity during our stay. After a little souvenir shopping while we were out of the country, it was time to head for home. Just one more roadblock to overcome- the border crossing. We waited our turn in line, and were waived forward for our turn in the barrel for questioning, interrogation, and the like. Standard questions, mostly, just like when we crossed the other direction. When she asked what we were bringing back, I simply stated "car parts". She stopped, looked at me like I was nuts (I'm getting used to that), and said: "You drove all the way to Canada from Kansas for car parts?" Yes, ma'am, we sure did. With a disgusted look on her face, she handed us back our passports and waved us through.

We made it! The rest of the trip home was fairly uneventful. We bought another couple hundred gallons of fuel, and about as much soda, and were glad to make it back in one piece. Was all this craziness worth it?

Maybe not to some folks, but to me it was. I had a great time with my son and some great friends. I can't thank Ron Brightwell (and Sheila for letting him go) enough. Brad and Jacob were crucial to pulling this thing off as well. Total parts count: 3 12 bolt rear ends, 3 Beaumont dashes, one complete front end and grille, as well as a couple other partials and a lot of other bits that you just can't get anywhere down here. Added to that the experience of a lifetime, and I score this one as a win.

So what am I planning to do with all this stuff? Well, that's fodder for another column down the road. Stay tuned for more updates as time rolls on. In the meantime, I've got lots of other stuff to work on and build, and - oh yeah!- a car show coming up as well.

Hope to see you all at this month's meeting, as well as at the MACC Chevelle show next month!

See ya on the road!

Ed

New Members

If you have not gotten around to paying your club dues you can go the web site:

www.midamericachevelle.com and find the form or just come to this month's meeting and pay Eugene (club dues are \$35). For those of you who just want to send your check in to Eugene here is his address:

Eugene Hallouer
12318 W. 61st.
Shawnee Kansas 66216



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