

MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB

FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER



MACC February 2018 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 (Brian Findley) at 913/558-1453 or email at findley13703@gmail.com

Board Information

Chair:	Roger Verstraete
Co-Chair:	Ed Smoot
Secretary:	Debbie Gragg
Treasurer:	Eugene Hallouer
At Large:	Stan Shinker
At Large:	John Gragg

Newsletter Editor: Brian Findley

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

Dues

Annual club dues (\$35) are to be submitted by April 30th. If you have not renewed your membership by this date there is a three month grace period. You can mail your dues to:

Mid America Chevelle Club
c/o Eugene Hallouer
12318 W. 61st Street
Shawnee, KS 66216

Reminder – Club dues are to be submitted 4/30.



2018 Meeting Minutes

MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB
HENDRICK CHEVROLET, MERRIAM, KS
January 25, 2018
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Verstraete. There were 31 members present. New member, Kevin Welp, was introduced – it was reported he has purchased and 1969.

Mike Stites thanked the members for the flowers sent for his Mother's funeral.

The members were informed the club insurance was due for Haggery, which was briefly discussed.

Steve Calder distributed a list of the Club Events for 2018. Several of the scheduled events were highlighted, which includes a new event heading - First Friday Cruise. The First Friday Cruise will be held at one of the members home's, with a time setting of 6:00 p.m. for a few hours. The host will decide on the menu for the evening. The first of these events is scheduled for April 6, with no set location named, May 4 at the Verstraete home in Shawnee; July 6 at the Gragg home in Olathe; and August 3 at the Peters home in Belton. The MACC picnic is scheduled for June 3 at the Prouty residence at Raymore. Other events were highlighted. Events dates will be available on the website and Facebook.

The 2018 Car Show was discussed. It was noted development is underway, but the date is not yet firm while waiting to hear the official date for the American Royal Barbeque. The show will be located at Nebraska Furniture Mart.

The minutes of October were approved as presented within the newsletter.

A discussion was had in regards to the upcoming World of Wheels Car Show – details included dates, parking, and the club location at the event.

Eugene Hallouer, Treasurer, provided a 2017 annual financial report, spoke of a new sponsor, and noted the current number of memberships is 76.

Chair Verstrate informed the membership that generally the members go to Old Shawnee Pizza after the monthly meetings. He also noted that every Saturday, there is a lunch event at Johnny's Tavern on Shawnee Mission Drive, and indicated all are welcome to attend.

Various members offered short progress reports on their vehicles, or friend's vehicles.

Drawings for a sign and \$25.00 were completed. Randy Cummins won the sign, and the \$25.00 went to Kevin Shields.

There being no further official business, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m. Immediately following, many of the members cruised to Old Shawnee Pizza.

Submitted by: Debra S. Gragg, Secretary



February event attended by MACC

February 9-11: World of Wheels Bartle Hall, KC, MO 8 cars

MACC was very well represent at this year's World of Wheels. At great time was had by all.

Congratulation to Ronnie Brightwell for bringing home outstanding truck for 2018 with his 1969 El Camino.





Calendar of Upcoming Events 2018

February---24: Moon Marble Co 600 East Front Street Bonner Springs, KS
Meet at 10:45 for 11 a.m. tour and demonstration \$7 per person.
Lunch at Johnny's Tavern 13131 W 63rd Street Shawnee, KS at
around 12:45.

March -----10: Tour Ft Leavenworth, KS

April-----6: First Friday Cruise In to Gehry Kohler-Hosted at Your Classic Ride
2711 Warwick Trafficway, KC, MO (by Crown Center)

April-----14: Shatto Milk Farm tour Osburn, MO

May-----4: First Friday Cruise In to Roger and Janet Verstraete's Shawnee, KS

May-----6: Cruise the Burg Car Show, Louisburg, KS Sunday Event

May----11-12: Hannibal Car Show, Hannibal, MO Friday and Saturday

May -----12: Pete and Jakes Car Show, Peculiar, MO

June-----2: MACC picnic—John and Phyllis Prouty's, Raymore, MO

June-----9: Paola Car Show, Paola, KS

July-----6: First Friday Cruise in to John and Debra Gragg's, Olathe, KS

July-----14: Guest Club of Mustang Club of Greater KC 10400 Mastin St. Overland Park, KS

July----20-21: Street Machine Nationals, St. Paul, MN

July-----28: The Great Car Show at WW1 Memorial

August----3: First Friday Cruise in to Russ and Vickie Peters Belton, MO

August----18: Hot Alma Nights Alma, KS

August----19: Cruise the K

August----24: Wellsville Car Show Wellsville, KS Friday Event

September 6,7,8: Midwest Chevelle Regional Wichita, KS

September -----8: Turkey Creek Car Show, Merriam, KS



September----15: Ol'Marais River Run Show Ottawa Car Show 15th

September----21,22: MACC Show Nebraska Furniture Lot, Kansas City, KS

October 5-----:First Friday Cruise In to Randy Cummings Olathe, KS

October 19, 20,21: Fall Color Tour, Lake of the Ozarks

October -----27: MACC Fall Party

November

December-----1: MACC Christmas Party Hollywood Casino at the Speedway Kansas City, KS
6pm

Other Events and Cruise can be added through the year

President's Column

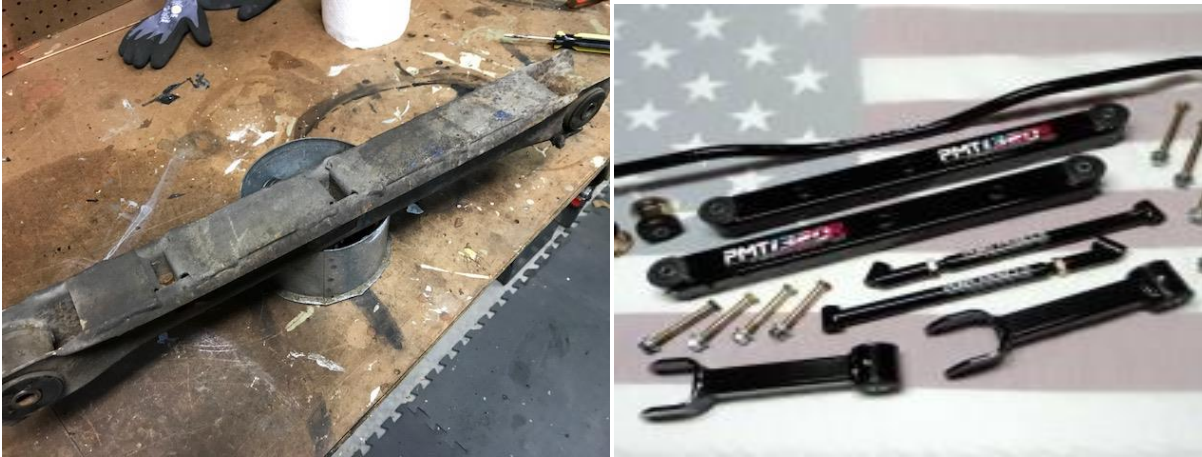
I know a lot of you are working on your Chevelles this winter, getting them ready for this year's car season. There are a lot of different things we all want to do to our cars. I'm no different and with two cars my list is twice as long. I do have my convertible done, but there are still a few bugs to work out.

When I first joined the club the only thing I was good at was putting gas and oil in my car and making it shine. After listening to what a lot of members were doing to their cars, I decided I would try my luck at working on my car. It wasn't easy for me, most of the time it took me three tries to get it right. After working on my red hardtop for about six years I started to feel more confident in my ability, and then I was able to start some major improvements. This experience really helped me when I decided to build my convertible. Looking back from when I started on my hardtop, I feel I was going at it the wrong way. I was working from the top down instead of the bottom up. It wasn't until later on when it dawned on me that it wasn't about making it go faster, or shine more that was important. It should have been about making my car as safe as it can be and then work on other stuff. So, as you guys plan on what your next project is on your ride, I hope you will consider making your car safe first.

When Chevelles were first built the only thing GM was concerned about was making them go fast in a straight line. Even the midyear Corvettes didn't handle well or stop very fast. It wasn't until the late 60's that GM started working on making cars safer with better braking and handling systems. In 1969 the first SS Chevelles came out with stock power disc brakes on the front and drum brakes on the back. In 1970 the F41 suspension was introduced, this came out as a stock item on all SS package Chevelles. This suspension system came with better rear end control arms, shocks, and rear sway bar. Since then, technology has come a long way in both stopping and handling. Front disc brakes have been replaced with four wheel disc brakes with drilled and slotted rotors. The old F41 suspension was an improvement but compared to what is out there now there's no comparison. The rear control arms, for example, were made in a U shape with a flat piece of metal welded to the open side. The new control arms are made out of 2" boxed steel 1/4" thick, with welded connectors on each end. The upper ones are the same way. All you have to do is look and see the difference. The original sway bars were 3/4" steel bar formed into the shape needed to connect the lower control arms, the newer ones are 7/8" or larger. The larger the size the stronger the rod is which makes it flex less which turns into better handling around corners. The next big improvement on rear suspension is better shocks and springs. If you have the original springs, it's way past time to change, they are worn out. There a big selection out their



too for springs, from stock to performance sets. Hotchkis makes a nice set of springs and they are about 1" shorter than original.



I used KYB shocks and painted them the stock color on my two cars. QA1 shocks are the best out there, but they are very pricey.

Now going to the front suspension, about the same holds true as the rear suspension. Better front springs, good shocks, drilled and slotted rotors on your disc brakes, and heavier front sway bar are great additions to your car. There are some great suspension packages out there, ranging from \$1,000 to upwards of \$4,000. Hotchkis and Detroit Speed are the best, but for my budget I used a kit from PMT Fabrication Suspension System. I have used them on both my 70's with great results.



Here is picture of a badly wornout front sway bar rubber bushing. This one must be an original to the car.



You can see what a 50 year old rubber bushing looks like and how it would hurt your car handling performance. This is only one of many rubber bushing that is in your suspension system. Your original body mounts are made of the same material and probably look the same. As you can see above, the difference between the 50 year old piece of rubber and the new rubber sway bar link. Age is a huge factor on rubber mounts along with water, salt, and road grime.

The next item is your steering gearbox. If you still have your original one on I know it has a lot of play in it. Your old gear box takes about four and one half turns to go to one side to the other.

They make replacement ones that just take three and one half turns. It might not sound like a lot but with quicker response time and getting rid of all the play in your old gearbox, this is a big safety factor going down the road at 70 mph. Ground Up makes a Power Steering Gearbox Kit that comes with a new rag joint coupler and correct attaching bolts. It's painted the correct color and fits great.



Last, but surely not least is your tires. Tires that are 10 years or older are not safe. You might have a ton of tread left on your tires, but tire tread does not protect your tires from a blowout. Blowouts occur from side wall cracks on the inside and outside of your car. All it takes is one bad tire to total out your expensive ride. For \$750 to \$1,000 you can have a new set on your car and you won't have to worry about them failing. That's cheap protection for the \$30,000 to \$100,000 cars we drive on the road today. Also, nothing looks better than a new set of wheels and tires. There are a ton of options out there, like going with the original 14x7 SS wheels, all the way to 17x8 custom set wheels and tires.



Here is the set I put on my car. It's kind of a blend of old and new style. 17x8 with 255/50/R17 tires.

I hope everyone might consider some of these changes when doing upgrades to your car in the upcoming years.

On to some club news, we have learned that they did move the date of the American Royal BBQ contest from Labor day weekend to September 12th through 15th. Now we can set our date for The Mid America Chevelle Car Show to September 21st and 22nd. Plans are in the works and a show flyer should be coming out shortly. We do have a meeting and will report on details that we have at the meeting. I hope to see everyone there. FYI, the last month's meeting was our largest ever for the month of January. We had 30 members present! Thanks to everyone who attended.

Roger

Vice-President's Column

Look for something exciting from our VP in March.

New Members

Andy & Amy Huber
13421 W 102nd Street
Lenexa, KS 66215
Cell: 913-957-4286
E-Mail huber427@hotmail.com
Member # 437 Good to 4/30/2019
1969 Malibu, Silver with Black Stripes, owned since 2002
Interests: Cruising, Car Shows, Tech Info, Tours, Parties.
He was looking for a Chevelle / Muscle Car enthusiast community.




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Mid America Chevelle Club Apparel for Sale

Here is a list of club apparel that is available for club members. This will be available at this month club meeting. We sell all of our club apparel at cost to club members.

Flexfit hats. Sizes (S-Med), (Large - XL) Colors, black, tan, white, red, navy. \$12.00



Hanes Beefy-t shirt. Sizes Large, XL, 2XL. Color Navy, Red, White \$12.00



All weather hooded wind breaker. Sizes come in Large, XL, 2XL Navy



Mid America Chevelle Club Members Parts for Sale



If you have any car parts you would like to sell email your list of parts to findley13703@gmail.com

Brian Findley – 913-558-1453

14 inch spare wheel and tire - \$20

Engine wiring harness for 1966, HEI with factory AC - \$100 – still in the original packaging.

Stainless fuel line for 396/350

Compact sub – RetroSound https://www.crutchfield.com/p_068SUB8100/RetroSound-SUB-8100.html - \$100

Front and Rear shock, KYB GR-2 – used 1 year -



Frank Riley, Lenexa, KS 913-638-7596

Muncie Wide Ratio M-20 4 Speed Transmission	\$600
Brand New Hurst Competition Plus 4 Speed Shifter	\$300
70 Chevelle 4 Speed Transmission Crossmember	\$100

Tom Meier from Lawrence, KS at 785-979-9920 have the following items for sale.

1967 El Camino (It is a driver, not a show car) – 327, turbo 350, 3:73 10 Bolt Posi, Power disc front.

1- 283, 3pd on the column

2- Parts El Camino

1970 1/18th scale Chevelles and El Caminos for sale, \$20.00 each. Contact John W. Gragg 816-804-4771



THE CHEVELLE REPORT---monthly publication by the National Chevelle Owners Association (NOCA). Monthly editions from February 1986 to October 2001 in four (4) binders. Enjoy hours and hours of reading “How to Articles”, “Chevrolet Factory Photographs”, “Coverage of National Events” and “Featured presentations of Members Chevelles, El Caminos, Sprints, Beaumonts, and Wagons” for sale at the very low price of \$350.00. Contact John W. Gragg 816-804-4771.



If you are looking for a project, this might be just for you.

1972 Chevelle – non SS car.

The Chevelle was a one owner car with 68,000 miles it has a 454 4speed it is only a chevelle no SS. The motor and tranny are not original it has bucket seats all black interior, ps, pb, has had quarters and outer wheel wells replaced - painted factory Forrest green.

Contact: Steve at 785-566-8317 home or 785-418-1433 cell

E-Mail hirachetasteve@hotmail.com

