

# MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB

## OCTOBER 2020 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](mailto:findley13703@gmail.com)

## **Board Information**

<b>Chair:</b>	Roger Verstraete
<b>Co-Chair:</b>	Ed Smoot
<b>Secretary:</b>	Debbie Gragg
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Eugene Hallouer
<b>At Large:</b>	Randy Cummins
<b>At Large:</b>	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 30<sup>th</sup>.** 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. 61<sup>st</sup> Street  
Shawnee, KS 66216

Reminder – Club dues are to be submitted 4/30 and be sure to keep you email address up-to-date so you don't miss club communications.  
Online credit card payment for dues is now available at  
[http://www.midamericachevelles.com/members/join\\_form.html](http://www.midamericachevelles.com/members/join_form.html)



## **2020 Meeting Minutes**

MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB  
HENDRICK CHEVROLET, MERRIAM, KS  
September 24, 2020  
MINUTES

The meeting, located at Merriam Marketplace, Merriam, KS , was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Roger Verstraete. There were 23 persons present. Introductions were made by those present.

Mr. Verstraete reported that a donation was made in respect for the loss of Mike Franchette's mother.

The minutes as presented in the newsletter were approved.

Mr. Verstraete spoke in regards to the potential holiday get-together. He indicated there are many restrictions for using the Thompson Barn, the site of last year's event. The 2021 event will be booked. It was noted there may be a few other options, which will be researched. Final decisions for this year's event will be formalized soon.

The upcoming Fall Party at John Freeman's residence is scheduled for October 24, 2020. This year will also include Chili cook-off, but individual serving will not be allowed due to the virus.

Those present agreed to an expenditure for "Wreaths Across America" in the amount of \$150.00.

Upcoming events include a Parade of Cars at the Brookdale Senior Living facility on September 25, 2020. Steve Calder spoke about a cruise through the northland on September 26, with more information provided via e-mail. Russ Peters is working on a cruise in the south part of the metropolitan area with more information via Facebook and e-mail forthcoming. The Covid-19 Color Tour, scheduled for October 17, was briefly discussed. The tour will travel to Boonville, Mo (along back roads) with a tour and lunch scheduled. Those participating should be back in the Kansas City area by 5:00 p.m.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted, and it was noted that there are currently 89 memberships.

Briefly discussed was the 2021 Regional Car Show, hosted by the Heartland Chevelle Club (HCC). Members present were informed the HCC is unable to book any sites at this time and hope by January, 2021 some actions may be possible.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

A cruise to Old Shawnee Pizza followed adjournment.

Submitted by:

Debra S. Gragg  
Secretary

## **Special Annoucement**

**MEMBERSHIP SIGN UP AND DUES RENEWAL IS NOW AVAILIABLE ONLINE!**



In the past we have had some requests from current members that they would like to renew their annual dues by Credit / Debit card. After some discussion at the last club meeting it was decided to make online New Membership and Club Dues renewal available (a \$2.00 convenience fee will apply). You can now renew your dues by Credit / Debit card on the club website at [www.MidAmericaChevelles.com](http://www.MidAmericaChevelles.com) or get with me at the Club Meetings. When you renew online you can also use the form to make any updates or changes to your Membership info. (if you don't know your membership number that's OK). Of course, you can still join or renew by Cash or Check as in the past, but a third option is now available.

Eugene  
Treasure

### **Events attended by MACC**

September 25—Friday Event--Parade of Cars for Brookdale Senior Living



September 25---Friday Event--Top Ten Cars Under the Stars American Legion  
No pics, members were in attendance.

September 26---MACC cruise in the Northland.





October 10---MACC Cruise around Belton. Russ Peters will provide the info



October 17---Covid Color Tour

The day started early in the morning, as the sun was rising. Eight Chevelles and one GMC Sprint, with occupants, made their way to the BP Station at Missouri 7 and U.S. 50 Highway with a departure time, from that site, at 8:00 a.m. for a trip to Boonville, MO.

The morning was WINDY, quite very, to say. As all met, many needed to obtain fuel and snacks to further the trip. Not only was it WINDY, but it was a COLD start. Sixteen persons can attest to that comment.

As the 8:00 a.m. departure time arrived, cars slowly exited the BP station to begin the eastbound trip on U.S. 50 Highway.

Our travels to view the scenery began with turning onto Z Highway, to HH Highway, to Highway, to MO 131 Highway, to U Highway, to 13 Highway, to E Highway, to NN Highway, to D Highway,



and to Mo 127 Highway, until arriving at Sweet Springs, Missouri for auto refreshments, as well as some necessary business for the auto's occupants.

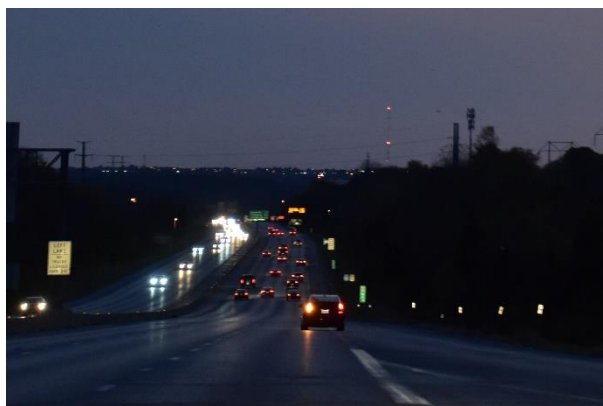
After a short break, the caravan began the second leg of the trip. From Sweet Springs, the cars cruised along MO 20 Highway to US 65 Highway, to MO 240 Highway, to MO 41 Highway past a Closed Road sign, then along E Highway, to H Highway, to AA Highway, to TT Highway, to MO 41 Highway, which became Old 40 Highway, then to MO 5 Highway. At that point, Chevelles and GMC Sprint entered into Boonville and completed the trip along Main Street to Spring Street, the destination being the Boonville Visitor Center. There was a scheduled tour of the Mitchell Auto Museum, but tour reservations were lost?? However, there was a nice exhibit of Missouri River and Katy Trail Train memorabilia at the Visitor's Center.

A little over an hour later, and much warmer, everyone headed back to their vehicles to travel to Spring Street, to Main Street, and to Ryan Street to our lunch spot – The Cove Restaurant. After parking the vehicles and exiting toward the restaurant, several of the vehicles's owners remembered they had stopped at this location before and there was a car show!! Unsure if many knew the day of the month, but wait .... we were here once before while there was a car show. Lunch was ordered and enjoyed on the outside patio of the restaurant, and seemed that all had a great time.

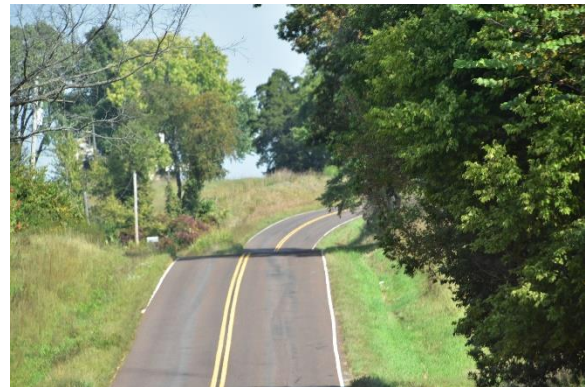
On the return trip, several members made a side trip to Blackwater, MO. It is a quaint town with a couple antique shops and gift shops, telephone museum, and other sites to explore. We were invited to attend the monthly car shows on the second Saturday of each month beginning in March through October. We were also informed the Mayor is very involved in the event and even makes the awards for the event. Vehicles and winners are highlighted in the local newsletter.

Assuming all returned home safely before the sunset, and enjoyed the first (and hopefully only) Covid-19 Color Tour.

Thanks to Russ, Jon, and John for the entertaining day and cruise.







October 24 --- Fall Party – John Freeman's







## **Calendar of Upcoming Events 2020**

November 6, 2020, beginning at 3:30 p.m. ending at 5:30 p.m. – Car Show for Shawnee Hill Senior Living located at 6335 Maurer Rd, Shawnee, KS 66217 Contact Brian Findley at [findley13703@gmail.com](mailto:findley13703@gmail.com) or text 913.558.1453 if interested in attending.

December 5---MACC Christmas Party — Cancelled for 2020

Just let Steve Calder or any of the club officers know at [sjc52@aol.com](mailto:sjc52@aol.com) or 816-547-1206 cell or text.

## **MACC Ladies Column**

MACC Ladies

More info coming soon.

## **President's Column**

Hi MACC,

It's late October and usually we are winding down with club activities this time of year. With the Christmas Party being the last event of the year (and my favorite event) it is time to celebrate everything we did in 2020. The Christmas Party was always a blast and is always well attended. Last year's Christmas Party at the Thompson Barn was our best Christmas party the club has ever had. We had over 80 members in attendance and the event space was just perfect. In early January, I reserved the Thompson Barn again to make sure we got the first Saturday night in December. With our club membership at an all time high, there was no doubt the 2020 Christmas Party would be another successful event. Nowhere in my wildest dreams did I think I would be writing this article to tell everyone that this year's Christmas Party has been cancelled. In August, I went up to the City of Lenexa to check on the Covid restrictions at the Thompson Barn. They were very restricting, limiting total attendance to only 45 people. Masks would be required at all times, food vendors would be only allowed to serve the food and we would have to do contact tracing on everyone that entered the building. Limiting attendance to 45 people just wasn't going to work plus all the other requirements. I did check into several other places that we used before and the main question they all ask was how many in attendance? There is no way to give an



answer in this type of environment we are in right now. So, I cancelled this year's event with great regret. It's just not worth the risk of someone getting sick.

For the last 5 years, our club has been attending World of Wheels Car show. We usually have 8 cars there and have a great space and we always draw a crowd around our cars. We usually get several people to join the club at the show. This year's dates are February 26-28. This year, club participation is up in the air because no one knows how bad the Covid virus will be in late February. If anyone is interested in going you need to let us know by the first of the year so we can make plans for those who are going. We need 8 cars to get our usual spot. If we can't get 8 cars committed and you want to still attend, you will be on your own to make arrangements.

For those of you that attend our club meeting on a regular basis, you know we have been moving around to different locations. January and February meetings were held at Hendricks Chevrolet and then when everyone was aware of the Covid 19 virus we cancelled March and April meetings. For the last few months, we have been having them at the Merriam Market Place in downtown Merriam and the meetings have been outdoors. With the weather getting colder and daylight getting shorter the October meeting is being cancelled. I went over last month some of the year end topics and think we have everything covered for the rest of this year. As far as starting up meetings next year, we will just have to wait and see what the New Year brings.

This year was supposed to be our year to host the Mid-West Regional Chevelle Car Show. Everyone knows we had to cancel the car show for obvious reasons. The Heartland Chevelle Club is scheduled to host the 2021 Chevelle Regional. Greg Hanson, the president of the Heartland Chevelle Club, is having issues securing a hotel to host the Regional because of the uncertainty of the Covid virus and wants our club to host the 2021 Regional since we had to cancel our show. This is a decision our club will have to make early in the year because a Regional is a lot more work to put on than our annual Mid America Chevelle Car Show. Of the four clubs that participate in the Mid-West Regional, we are the only club that does not have the car show at a hotel. We try our best to run the Regional like we do our own show only with more options on things to do. We have a great sponsor in O'Reilly's auto parts store that gives us a nice sum of money to do the extra things needed to host a regional. My hope is that Heartland Chevelle club can secure a hotel and host the 2021 Regional and then in 2022 we can host that Regional.

What's 2021 going to be like? I think about this a lot and to be honest I have no clue and if someone says they know they are just guessing like the rest of us are. I could ask 25 different people and get 25 different answers. With that said it really makes it hard to plan events for next year. In January, the event staff always gets together to plan out the upcoming year. Think we will have to find a different way to make plans for 2021. If 2020 has taught us anything, you can't plan too far ahead because tomorrow things can change in a heartbeat. But Steve and I are always trying to think of new and safe ways to get together like the cruise we had this fall. By all accounts, everyone that participated in these cruises had a good time and it was a safe health wise as possible. I believe we have found a new event that we can continue doing for the next few years.

For me personally, this has been very frustrating year. The event staff had a ton of events scheduled that had to be cancelled. The Mid-West Regional car show was well planned out and was on its way to getting all of our ducks in row when Covid hit. To have to cancel the car show and the Christmas Party were hard decisions to make. I know not everyone agrees on some of





decisions we had to make, but we made these decisions with the safety of our membership and along with the financial risk involved in putting on these two events. I'm committed not to waste membership club dues money and when we do spend money, we want to get our money's worth.

I want to thank all the club officers, Brian Finley our newspaper editor, Steve Calder and the event staff members and car show committee members for their work and dedication to the club. Without all of them none of this could be possible. Also want to thank our club sponsor, Midwestern Mechanical Specialties- John Freeman, Hendricks Chevrolet and Don Burdolski with Hagerty Insurance.

This will be my last column of the year, and I want to wish everyone safe and healthy holidays.

*Roger*

### **Vice-President's Column**

Winter is upon us! This quick cold snap and subsequent snow makes for a lot less fun for a car person. Unless, of course, your idea of fun is upgrades and repairs!

I have plenty of those planned, but most recently had one come up that wasn't exactly on the schedule. As many of you know, I have moved deep into Miami County now. While my commute to work has gotten markedly shorter, my drive to make it to a MACC meeting on time has increased slightly. Last month, I had it all planned out- leave work a little early, grab the wagon since I hadn't driven it in a while, go get it washed and head to the meet-up spot. Like most of my best-laid plans, everything was going really well, until it wasn't. What I hadn't planned on was a handful of fender benders on I-35 right where the highway splits at 75th street due to road construction. I sat there, inching along, for 45 minutes in bumper to bumper traffic. It was a nice evening though, and as I inched along, I had the stereo going, headlights on, A/C cranked, and I was just enjoying being in the car despite the surroundings and lack of speed.

The sun had set by the time I made it to Merriam, and most of the meeting attendees were exiting the parking lot as I pulled in. While I missed the bulk of the meeting, I figured I'd still pull in and at least say hey to whomever was still around. It was nice to see the folks that were still there, we chatted for a few, and when it came time to leave, I hit the key and..."click". Try the ignition again..."click". Weird? I just drove here and shut it off! Being ill-equipped as usual, I had no tools, no meter, no jumper cables. This car has very rarely given me any trouble. Thankfully, a couple MACC friends are more prepared than I, and we were able to get the car jump started and running again. Just to be safe, I limped over to John Freeman's place (and Club Sponsor), Midwestern Mechanical- which was right around the corner. The original plan was to stop by for a cold one (which we still did), but now I was there asking to borrow a tester to see what was what. John was kind enough to wheel out his battery tester, which he used to quickly diagnose a bad alternator. Then it dawned on me-- I have owned this car for years, and it still had the alternator of unknown amperage and origin from when I got it. Since purchasing, I've really taxed the electrical system with a new Vintage air, fuel injection system with electric fuel pump, and a stereo that has a pretty sizeable amp. Add in the electric cooling fan, and I'm surprised that the electrical system made it this long!



I left the car with John, and he was kind enough to give me a lift home, as we don't live all that far apart these days. He ordered in a new Powermaster single wire alternator, installed it, wired it in, and like magic- it's fixed! I could get used to having my own personal mechanic- well some of the time. John did a great job, as a lot of you know since a lot of club members already use his shop for a variety of things. I'm super appreciative that he was there for me, and it sure pays off to have good friends.



So, I'm back in business (with the wagon anyways) if we get some nice weather to get out and about yet this season.

Hope to see you all soon!

Ed



## **New Members**

John & Christy Grant

17309 Stearns Street

Overland Park, KS 66221

Home Phone 402-699-8946

E-mail [jvgrant76@yahoo.com](mailto:jvgrant76@yahoo.com)

Member# 473 good to **4/30/2022**

1966 Malibu Sport Coupe, Red with black interior. 400 SBC, TH350 tranny.

Interests: Cruising, Car Shows, Tech Info.

Found the club on the internet.

*Comments: Looking for some help locating a good, affordable and trustworthy mechanic to look at some engine issues.*



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## **Mid America Chevelle Club Apparel for Sale**

Here for a short time are some addition Club Show shirts, get yours while the supply last. In addition, be ready to order you very own plaque with your name and membership number.

2019 Show shirt sizes still available to purchase at the meeting:

- 3 Medium
- 1 Large
- 2 XLarge
- 1 2XL
- 1 3XL
- 1 Medium 2018 show shirt

Cost of the shirts are \$15 for M, L & XL, \$18 for 2XL & 3XL, and \$5 for last year's shirt.

If anyone is interested and have not already purchased a Club Membership Plaque the last time to purchase one will be at the October club meeting. Eugene will be the meeting to accept payment so Roger can turn in the order the following week. We plan to hand them out at the Christmas Party or arrangements can be made with Rogers to pick it up when they are ready.

Here is a list of club appeal that is available for club members. This well be available at this month club meeting. We sell all of our club appeal 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](mailto:findley13703@gmail.com)

Brian Findley – 913-558-1453

Engine wiring harness for 1966, HEI with factory AC - \$100 – still in the original packaging.  
Stainless fuel line for 396/350

Mike Stites – 913-485-7368

Transmission Cooler - \$30 -- 4.56 gear set - \$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

I've got both my El Camino's for sale and wanted to see if you would share the links please.

I love them both but I need a better daily driver for going back and forth to school.

Don Hosek

Looking for the upper tailgate molding for a 1976 El Camino. This molding covers the pinch weld on the top of the tailgate. For sale: '73 - '77 El Camino NOS wheel opening moldings, complete set of four \$950.00; Reconditioned set of four also available \$750.00 Please call Don Hosek at 515-975-7800.

1965-1967 BB Holley intake – Ron Brightwell - \$80.00



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



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