

# MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB

## APRIL 2021 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)



## **2021 Meeting Minutes**

MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB  
HENDRICK CHEVROLET, MERRIAM, KS

### MINUTES

## **Special Annoucement**

### **MEMBERSHIP SIGN UP AND DUES RENEWAL IS NOW AVAILABLE 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**

Worlds of Wheels – March 26-28, 2021 – four of the six cars received awards.







April 25, 2021 cruised Bonner Springs, Basehor, Tonganoxie, Linwood, and Western Shawnee. We had 24 members with 22 members drove their Chevelles.







## **Calendar of Upcoming Events 2021**

Please note that all of these events are subject to change as we progress through this year. Sure hope it is better than last year.

May 1--- Kansas White Way (Hwy 9) Car Run. Atchison, KS to Frankfort, KS. Depart Atchison 8a.m. \$30 registration Depart Atchison at 8:00 a.m.

For those on the KS side or south meet at the car wash across the street from the QuikTrip 389 N 130th St(HWY 73 and 130th) for departure at 6:30. See email sent April 10th for more info.



May 2---American Legion Post 250 Car Show Louisburg, KS - American Legion Park 403 S 9th Street Sunday Event  
May 7-8-Loafers Car Show. Hannibal, MO. Drive to Hannibal on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Show on the 8th.  
Meet at Rest Stop north of Kearney, MO mile - Marker 34 at 11:15 on May 7th. More info will be in an email the last week of April.  
May22---Driving Cruise

June 5-----Olathe Police Foundation Show-Olathe South High School  
June 12---Paola Heartland Show Paola, KS  
June 19---MACC picnic---Hosted by John and Phyllis Prouty 1400 Kurzweil Rd, Raymore, MO  
June 26---Driving cruise

July 2 or 3---Good Guys Show Iowa State Fairgrounds Des Moines, Iowa - Drive up and back same day.  
July 10-----Driving Cruise  
July 22-25--- Street Machine National St. Paul, Minnesota  
July 24-----Twin Peaks Lunch

August 5-8---Show Me Rally to Dallas, TX Limited spots.  
Contact Brian Findley or Ed Smoot for more info. Registrations open sometime in March.  
August 7---Car Show Columbia, MO  
August 21---Hot Alma Nights Show Alma, KS  
August 27---Wellsville Car Show Wellsville, KS

September 11---Turkey Creek Car Show Merriam, KS  
September 12---Wheels and Dreams Show Shawnee, KS  
September 18---Old Marais River Run Ottawa, KS  
September 25 - MACC annual Car show. Nebraska Furniture Mart parking lot KC, KS

October 8---Tour Whiteman AFB Knobnoster, MO 32 spots for tour FULL Friday event  
October 9-----Driving Cruise  
October 15-16-Fall Color Tour  
October 23-----Fall Party

December 4--- MACC Christmas Party-Thompsons Barn Lenexa, KS - Saturday event

If and when the membership feels comfortable, we will start up the First Friday Cruisin to members houses.

If you have an idea for one of the driving cruise routes, please let me know.

Any other ideas for events are welcome.

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,

The long-awaited arrival of spring has come and with that we are starting up on our club activities again. 2020 was a mess by many accounts and 2021 is going to be a better year. With all that said, we are going to ease back into our normal schedule of club events. This coming Saturday there is a car show that we have never attended before in Frankfort Kansas. It's called The Kansas White Way Car Run. We will meet in Atchison Kansas and then travel on Highway 9 to Frankfort, Kansas. All details are in an email that Steve sent out earlier giving times and different locations to meet up at. The next day there is the Louisburg Car Show on May 2nd. Again, check your email for more details on this car show. The next big club outing is to Hannibal, Missouri on May 8th for the Loafers Car Show. There will be an email on all details about this car show coming out soon.

This coming Thursday evening at 7pm, we will have our first club meeting of the year at the Merriam Market Place in downtown Merriam at 5740 Merriam Dr. We will be going over in more detail about upcoming club activities at this month's meeting and future club activities for the year. Since this is the first meeting of the year, there will be some catching up to do with club business like setting the 2021 budget and election of club officers. These two topics will be discussed in detail and we will vote on them at the May meeting. We are hoping sometime this fall we will be able to return to Hendricks Chevrolet for meetings.

I also have some more good news about this year car show. The 2020 Midwest Chevelle Regional as you all know was cancelled because of Covid. The 2021 Midwest Regional was supposed to be hosted by the Heartland Chevelle Club. They could not nail down a location, so they asked our club to host the 2021 Regional. We debated this issue and with all the uncertainty of Covid in January we decided to wait until April 1st to make that decision. I talked to all the club officers in March and we decided that it would be best not to host this year's regional. But we decided to have a one-day Mid America Chevelle Club Car Show on September 25th. This year's car show will be downsized, and we are changing up how we usually do things. There will no food at the car show because NFM has a restaurant inside their building. Instead of judging cars by year, we are just going to do a top 25 participation judging. We will still have awards for best of show, best paint, best engine, and best interior. Also, a big change is that we will not be parking by year. Instead, everyone attending can park anywhere they choose to. We are working on the car show flyer right now and should have them ready to hand out by the May meeting.

I don't have to tell anyone how tough 2020 was. I figured our club membership would decline some. Well again, I was surprised membership actually increased. Our membership as of this April 1st has broken a record of 101 paid members. This year club dues are due by the end of this month and you can mail them in or pay at this month's meeting. Dues are \$35.00 per year. Last





year we decided to have a link to pay dues online for those who want an easier way to pay. Here is the link to do just that. [http://midamericachevelles.com/members/join\\_form\\_submit.html](http://midamericachevelles.com/members/join_form_submit.html) There is a \$2.00 fee added cost to make a total of \$37.00 if you pay on line. If you want to mail in your dues, here is link for that. <http://midamericachevelles.com/contact/index.html> I want to thank everyone that stayed with us last year through a tough year. Also, want to welcome all of our new members and promise 2021 is going to be a better year with a lot more club activities for club members.

Hope to see everyone SOON,

*Roger*

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

Happy 2021 everyone!

Ed

## **Member's Corner**

Steve and Lori Calder 1972 GMC Sprint Story

First of all you may wonder, What is a GMC Sprint? Most of you who have been around the MACC know because we happen to have two of them. For those that don't know the GMC Sprint is a little know variant of the Chevrolet El Camino offered to GMC dealers from 1971-1977. From 1978-1987 the GMC version was called Caballero. The Sprint had all the options available in the El Camino. The SS version was called an SP. From all the articles I have read and in talking to a couple of guys who worked on the assembly line at the Leeds plant the only difference between the Sprint and the El Camino was the GMC badging. GM produced 5536 Sprints in 1971 and 6473 in 1972 according to production numbers researched by Dan Carr.

I purchased my first GMC Sprint in 1975. At the time I was driving a 67 Camaro that was getting very tired. Lori and I were dating and she was still in college in Lincoln, NE when I decided I wanted to look for an El Camino as I had a friend who had one and I really liked it. I ended up buying a GMC Sprint from a used car lot in Lincoln. Purchased in March 1975 for \$1750 plus trade in of the Camaro. It was a 1972 GMC Sprint with a 454, TH400, bucket seat, round gauges cowl induction. VIN 5D80W2K501731. A true 454 Kansas City built Sprint. According to production numbers one of 38 with that engine and options. Of course, back in 1975 I had no idea how few were made as we all know they were our transportation.





I was driving this Sprint when Lori and I got married in May of 76 and most of the pictures I have of that Sprint were taken on our wedding day.

We had the “smart” idea to drive from the church to her folks house which was on a few miles away in Omaha riding in the back of the Sprint. We made the mistake of having her brother drive and instead of going directly to the house he took us around several of the shopping malls in Omaha with a whole string of cars behind. Luckily, we did not get thrown out and finally made it to the house very windblown.



In August of 1976 we traded the Sprint in on a 4x4 pickup because at the time we lived on a mud road in rural Nebraska and the Sprint was terrible in the mud. The dealer I traded in to told me that the Sprint was purchased by a local teenager who totaled it two weeks later. So that was the end of my Sprint owning days until March of 2006 when I started looking for a Sprint the same color as the first one.

I found one on line at a dealer south of Chicago. Talked to the dealer several times over a couple of weeks and decided to go take a look. Booked a Southwest flight to Midway Airport with a cancellable return ticket and headed to Chicago. Rented a car and drove south to the dealership. After hours of back and forth, a test drive and a trip to a local mechanic looking at it we finally struck a deal around 4:30 p.m. Took the rental car back to the airport the dealer picked me up and we went back to the dealership where I departed for home at 6p.m. with a 34-year-old car that I had only driven 10 miles! Decided after an hour or so I better stop for the night and continue the next day in the daylight. Made it home without any problems.





My yellow Sprint has a 350 4 barrel with TH400 with sweep speedo. This Sprint is pretty much a 20 foot driver quality with some issues and is my “Maybe someday I’ll get it redone”!



Forward to March 2008 and I was purusing eBay and saw a 72 big block Sprint that was located in Merriam, KS. At KC Creations and Hot Rods/Big Dog Motorcycles. It did not sell on eBay but they had a “Buy it now” price on it. The pictures looked good so I called KC Creations and went to Merriam to look at it.

The Sprint had been through a frame off restoration and I liked it so I went home to talk to Lori about it and she said “When you sell the yellow Sprint” and I said “What”!!!

Well we did not sell the yellow Sprint and I was able to persuade her into buying the second Sprint. This one is a big block U code(402), cowl induction, TH400, round gauges, Baltimore built Sprint. Original color was Sequoia Green now HOK Kandy Tangerine. One of 83/6473 produced.



It has been fun having something different and I get a lot of comments about never seeing a Sprint, did not know GMC made one, to even some people telling me it’s fake!

We have enjoyed many outings with this Sprint. It has been driven to many cruises, car shows and events over the last 12 years. Some of the longest adventures have been the Hot Rod Power Tour in 2018, Street Machine Nationals in Minneapolis and the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary El Camino Show in Arlington, Tx in 2019.

Lori and I have had a blast in the Mid America Chevelle Club and have met some great people and made a lot of friends. My advice to is to attend some of the events with club members and drive that car.



This picture is on our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We even had some of the old aluminum frame lawn chairs.

### **New Members**

Keith and Michelle Culbertson

6005 Caenen Street

Shawnee, KS 66216

Cell Phone 913-481-7953

E-Mail kculbertson98@gmail.com

Member #477

1970 Malibu SS Clone with LS1. Owned the same car in High School, sold it afterwards. Just repurchased it back 22 years later.

Interests: Cruising, Tours

Found out about club from Brad Lyne & Jeff Long. Lives 4 houses down the block from me.

Comments: Willing to lend a helping hand or spare parts to anyone that needs it.

Edward and Dianne Tanquary

11309 Buena Vista

Leawood, KS 66211

Home Phone 913-451-3430 Cell Phone 913-208-0660

e-mail fleetpaintkc@gmail.com

Member# 478

1966 SS Maroon, 396, owned 5 years

Interests: Cruising, Car Shows

Found out about club on Car Show Flier

Kevin & Debby Sanders

15363 Bradford Ct





Basehor, KS 66007  
Cell Phone 816-590-9406  
e-mail kdsanders72696@aol.com  
Member# 479  
1965 Malibu SS, Danube Blue  
Interests: Car Shows, Tech Info  
Found out about club on the internet.



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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 will 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

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.

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



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