

# MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB

## MARCH 2023 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 Minsky's Pizza at 7198 Renner Road in Shawnee, Ks. 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 Minsky's Pizza at 7198 Renner Road in Shawnee, Ks.

- 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)



## **2023 Meeting Minutes**

### **MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB HENDRICK CHEVROLET, MERRIAM, KS**

February 23, 2023

#### **MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President Verstraete. New member Doug Reaser, with a 1971, was present. Conner DeMott was also present. Introductions were made by all members present.

The Minutes, as published in the newsletter, were accepted.

Mr. Verstraete noted that membership plaques were still available.

Mr. Smoot informed those present that his current status as Vice-President would end with the end of term. He said he is still remaining in the club, but had other matters taking more of his time.

Mr. Verstraete indicated the 2023 budget would be presented at the March meeting. He reminded all that the membership dues and elections will take place in April. He stated nominations will be accepted until the April meeting. All seats are open for the election process.

Mr. Findley overviewed the upcoming events for the next few months. It was noted that the Verstraete's would host the May (May 5) First Friday – more information coming. Fliers for the Chevelle Regional, scheduled for June at Springfield, Missouri were distributed.

Mr. Freeman informed the membership that the Turkey Creek show and events will be hosted on July 8 and August 12 of 2023.

Mr. Hallouer overviewed the treasury, dues, revenues, expenditure to date.

Mr. Smoot was thanked for his time on the board.

Mr. Terrill distributed Chevelle Parts catalogs to the membership.

The monthly drawing was won by Eugene Hallouer.

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

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

### **FIRST FRIDAY CRUISE IN.**

There are still TWO openings to host a First Friday Cruise in.  
May 5<sup>th</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup>

### **MACC Committees**

MACC has several committees in place to help with planning all the activities that take place during the year. The committees and their members are listed below. Committees are always seeking help from the MACC membership. If you see a committee you would like to support, feel free to reach out to any of the committee members, letting them know.

#### **Car show Committee:**

Ed Smoot. Chairman  
Eugene Hallouer  
Mike Stites  
Kent Scott  
John Gragg  
Jon Clark  
Tim Cunningham

#### **Car Show flyer, shirts designer:**

Lynn Clark

#### **Event staff:**

Steve Calder chairman  
John Prouty  
Russ Peters  
Brian Findley

#### **Christmas party staff:**

Tim Cunningham  
Jeff Long

#### **Charitable committee:**

John & Debra Gragg  
John Freeman

Mid America Chevelle club communications director Roger Verstraete. Self appointed LOL



**Facebook administrators:**

Roger Verstraete  
Ed Smoot  
Dean Call

**Chevelle and mechanic advise committee:**

John Freeman  
Jeff Long

**Chevelle Appraisal Committee:**

Brian Findley  
Roger Verstraete  
Jeff Long

**Newsletter editor:**

Brian Findley

**Events attended by MACC**

63rd Annual World of Wheels Show Bartle Hall KC, MO 8 member cars

A great showing at this year's World of Wheels.

- 1 - First place
- 4 - Second place
- 1 - Third place
- 2 - Class place







## **Calendar of Upcoming Events 2023**

- April 22---Tour of Armacost Auto Museum 4200 E 135th St Grandview, MO  
10a.m.-12 noon Cost is \$10 per person. Must be 16 or older to attend.
- April 29---MACC featured club at Gateway Classic Cars Caffeine and Chrome  
Cruise In 9a.m. to noon. Gateway Classic will donate \$10 for each  
Club car in attendance up to \$200  
Lunch at Twin Peaks
- May 5----First Friday Cruise In-Host needed
- May 7----Cruise the Burg Car Show Louisburg, KS Sunday show
- May 12-13---Loafers Car Show Hannibal, MO  
Drive to Hannibal Friday. Show Saturday, drive home after
- May 20---Warm Springs Ranch (breeding farm for the Budweiser Clydesdales)  
25270 Highway 98 Boonville, MO. 1:30p.m. tour booked \$15 each



40 people per tour. 25 tickets still available. Contact Steve Calder to reserve your tickets.

June 4 ---MACC Picnic Longview Lake Shelter House #12 Jackson County KC, MO Sunday  
June 10 – Olathe Police Foundation Car Show at College Church of the Nazarene on Mur-Len south of 135th. Registration begins at 8:00. Show starts at 10:00 with participant judging awards beginning at 1:00PM. \$20 registration, \$10 with student ID for High School, University or College. Pre-registration available in April.  
June 10—Paola Car Show  
June 30-July 1--Midwest Chevelle Regionals Springfield, MO

July 7—First Friday Cruise In—John and Debra Gragg hosts  
July 21-23—Street Machine Nationals St. Paul, MN-contact Brian Findley if interested.  
July 22—Tour of Tension Envelope plant 819 E 19th Street KC, MO  
Lunch TBD then to That 70's Car Show Lake Contrary, St Joseph, MO 2pm To 7pm  
July 29—Prosperity Car Show Overland Park all proceeds go To Cars 4 Heroes \$20 –The past two years they have given away two cars at the show.

August 4-First Friday Cruise In—Host needed  
August 25-Wellsville Car Show Wellsville, KS Friday show

September 1—First Friday -Brian and Sandy Findley hosts  
September 9-10-Good Guys Show in Loveland, CO (Eugene and Anna are attending).  
September 9---Turkey Creek Car Show Merriam, KS  
September 16—Ol Marias River Run Car Show Ottawa, KS  
September 23—MACC car show

October 6—First Friday - John and Phyllis Prouty hosts  
October 21-Fall Party  
December 2—MACC Christmas Party -- Thompsons Barn Lenexa (reserved)

Other cruises and tours or events will be added as the year progresses.  
If you have an idea for a cruise/tour/show please contact any officer or Steve Calder

Get those Chevilles out and enjoy!

Steve Calder  
MACC Events Coordinator  
sjc52@aol.com 816-547-1206 cell/text

## **MACC Ladies Column**

MACC Ladies

More info coming soon.





## **President's Column**

HI MACC,

On Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup>, I received the very sad news that Dean Call's wife Barbara had passed away from a heart attack. At last year's Christmas Party, we celebrated Dean and Barbara's 65th wedding anniversary. It was such a good time seeing both Dean and Barbara so happy being able to spend those 65 years together. When Dean and Barbara started Mid America Chevelle Club 35 years ago, the meetings were held in their basement. One of the highlights of each meeting was Barbara making fresh baked cookies for all the members who attended that night's meeting. I've only been a member for about 15 years now and wasn't around during the early years of the club's existence. Some of the early members have told me she was always there to help Dean get the club started and encourage Dean to keep it going during those early years. Barbara was also Dean's partner in his HVAC business. She took care of the books along with taking care of their four children. Their son Allen has taken over the family business now and Barbara was still helping Allen with the bookkeeping. Dean and Barbara have 4 children, 16 grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren.

My personal relationship with both Dean and Barbara was very special to me. When I became president of the club I could always talk to Dean about the history of the club and he would give me advice when I asked for it. Barbara was one of the sweetest people I knew. She always had a smile on her face and you could tell Dean and her family were the most important things in her life. Barbara left this world a better place and will be missed by all but mostly by her family. Please keep the Call family in your thoughts and prayers.



In last month's newsletter, Ed wrote in his column that he is going to step down from his officer position as Vice President. Ed and I were elected officers 13 years ago. Over those 13 years, I believe we have accomplished a lot of good things for the club. Ed has been one of the best ambassadors for MACC to date. Ed has never met a stranger and was always willing to talk to someone about their Chevelle, give advice and even help fix a member's car if possible. Ed and Inga have opened up their home many times and hosted our Fall Party. They would always have a nice fire to set around so we all could keep warm to trade lies and tell stories about our cars.



Ed always brings his RV to our car show to use as our command center. Ed would always bring a golf cart and BBQ grills to cook for our Friday night cook out at the car show too. I could go on and on about all the things Ed and Inga have done to help MACC grow. Over these 13 years, I can honestly say we have never disagreed on anything and it has been a blast working with Ed. Ed has always been there for me when I needed advice and I consider him to be a great friend of mine.

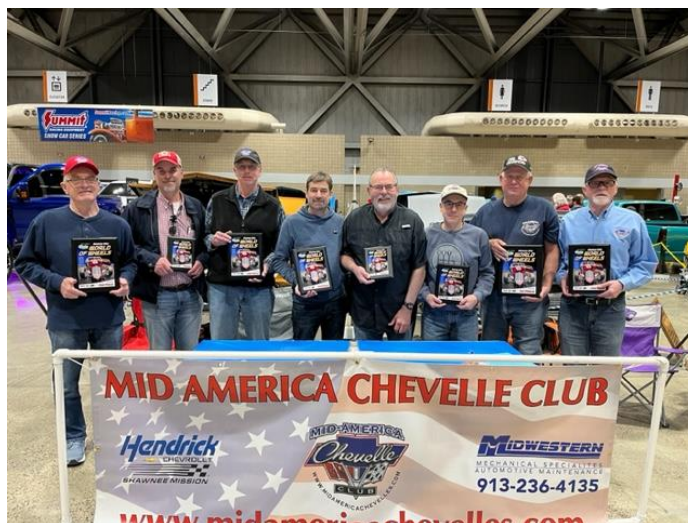
The good news though, is Ed will still be around and is still on the car show committee putting his great leadership qualities to use.

**Ed I know I speak for everyone in the club, thanks for all you have done in the past and looking forward to spending time in the future with you.**



Ed and I going on the pro touring course at Chevell A Bration in 2012

As Ed steps down as Vice President, that leaves an opening for Vice President. March is the month I like to go over the upcoming year budget and have nominations for club officers. As Ed would always say, all positions are open and we welcome new people to run for club officers. Election of club officers is in the month of April and if someone is interested in running for a certain position, please contact me.



Want to thank everyone who came down to World of Wheels Car show this year. We had a great variety of beautiful Chevelles on display. A big thank you to Steve for organizing this year's club event again. Everyone had a blast as usual. Well, that it for this month and just remember spring is just around the corner and it will be time to get the Chevelle out for a spin.

Hope to see everyone soon.

*Roger*

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

Be back soon-  
Ed

## **New Members**

More to come.

## **Member's Corner**

### **Dakota Digital Dash Install**

Most of you know that we have been working on our 67 Chevelle since we bought it a couple of years ago. After the Gas Tank replacement last Fall we felt like we had everything that needed to be fixed completed and we could move on to making some improvements to the car. The under dash gauges that came with the car were really a cheap set and I had already decided the replace them at some point. I also wanted to get rid of the cheap Tach that was mounted on the lower part of the dash. The Gas Gauge was still off a quarter tank even after replacing the tank & sending unit. A Dakota Dash would solve all these problems.

We decided to install the HTX series gauges. They are full sweep gauges that are expandable with BIM modules and are customizable for daytime and nighttime illumination. The instructions that come with the dash are detailed and easy to understand so I'm not going to go into a lot of detail. I will share some tips and shortcuts to make the project easier if you decide to do it yourself. I suggest you replace the dash wiring harness at the same time unless it has been replaced recently.

The most difficult part of the project was finding a spot to mount the control box. It should be accessible even with the dash installed so that future expansion/troubleshooting is possible without having to remove the dash. This car has Vintage Air which takes up a lot of space under the dash along with the duct hoses. The only spot I could find was on the passenger side under the dash accessible thru the glove compartment door opening. I used some industrial Velcro to mount it up under the dash (after the dash was out), I didn't want to drill any holes. With the control box position known you can make sure all the wiring is long enough to reach it.

Before I disassembled the dash I installed all the sensors. You can tap into the dash harness later to get the fuel gauge sending unit signal. Dakota Digital recommends running a dedicated wire along with the ground from the sending unit (16 Gauge) to the control box which I did.





You remove the original speedometer cable and replace it with a pulse generator at the transmission. The generator is a bit larger than the cable and interfered with the shifter linkage, so I had to purchase an extension (a 7" speedometer cable Part #130011) to gain some linkage clearance. Route the wire thru the same rubber grommet the Speedometer cable ran thru, it's plenty long enough to reach to control box. If you chose to run dedicated wires from the fuel tank sending unit they can run thru the same grommet.

Install the Water Temperature and Oil Pressure sending units. Small Blocks will need an adapter for the Oil Pressure sending unit for proper clearance, (Part#130070). Find or drill a hole in the firewall to run the wires thru using a rubber grommet. After both sensors are installed I started the engine and check for leaks so I would not have to deal with any leaks later on. Both sensor wires are long enough to reach the control box and both wires are similar in appearance so I marked one of them so I would know which was which at the control box. You also need to run a tach wire from the Negative side of the coil or the Tach terminal on a GM HEI Ignition. I used a green wire (18 gauge).

You can now unplug and remove the steering column and the dash along with the dash wiring harness. You will have to unplug the fuse box on the firewall under the hood, both door jamb switches, parking brake switch, headlight dimmer switch, stop lamp switch, rear body harness connector, A/C power, neutral safety switch, back up switch and all the connections to the console if equipped. I stripped the dash completely after removed so I could have all the holes in the dash (old tach) welded up and to repaint it.

With the dash on the bench, disconnect and remove the old wiring harness and original gauge assembly. If you purchased a new harness it will come with a wiring diagram, if you use your existing harness you may want to take some notes during disassembly.

Install the Dakota Digital gauges and the new or existing dash harness. GM uses a color coded wiring system so I purchased enough colored wire to stick to that coded system, recommended minimum 20 gauge, I used 18. Having the correct color wire will simplify the wiring at the control box.

Splice into the dash harness to provide these signals to the control box:

Left Turn-Light Blue wire

Right Turn-Dark Blue wire

High Beam-Light Green wire

Parking Brake-Tan wire

Tail Light (tells display to switch to night mode)-Brown wire. I tapped into the rear body harness Brown wire.

If you use the harness for the gas gauge feed instead of running a dedicated wire-Tan wire (Mark as Fuel Gauge)

Leave the wires as long as possible (will shorten later).

You will have a lot of wires and connectors on the dash harness not used, the instrument lamps for example. I cut off all the unused sockets and connectors, heat shrunk the ends and taped them into the dash harness to clean everything up.

Now to provide power to the control box.



Find a good metal ground (Important!!!!)-Black wire. (16 gauge) I ran 2 separate grounds.  
Ignition- Orange wire (14 gauge) to fuse box Ignition fused terminal.  
Constant 12 volts.-Red wire (16 Gauge) This wire must have 12 volts all the time even with the Ignition off, also if you have a battery cut out switch you will have to run a separate wire (fused) from the positive battery terminal to the control box.  
I organized all the wiring into 3 separate looms to the control box.  
Loom 1-Speedometer, Water Temperature, Oil pressure and Fuel Gauge  
Loom 2- Left & Right Turn, High Beam, Park Brake, Tail Light  
Loom 3- Ground, Ignition, 12 volt constant and Tach. The instructions say not to run the tach wire close to the sensor wires (loom 1) because it may cause interference with the other sensor signals.

I cut all of the wires as long as the sensor wires. This way there is enough wire to run the looms thru the glove compartment door opening to the control box on the floor for final assembly (after the dash has been installed). This will make it easy to get to it in the future to add accessories or troubleshooting. Once the wiring to the control box is complete stick it back under the dash to the Velcro thru the glove compartment opening.

The Vintage Air glove compartment was so small it was worthless so we discarded it so all the extra wiring would fit in that space.

The display cable that comes with the dash is only 3 feet long, defiantly not long enough to reach the control box on the passenger side so a 6 foot cable will need to also be purchased. (Part#394213-72)

There is also a buzzer that comes with the Digital dash to sound an alarm if any of the preset parameters are reached. I mounted it under the dash where the speaker would have been. Reinstall the dash and reconnect all the connections disconnected for removal.

Reinstall the steering column. (I replaced the original with an IDIDIT column but that's another newsletter article).

Start the car and everything should work. Drive a measured mile to calibrate the speedometer, and set the odometer to any number you want but must be done within the first 100 miles. We set ours to the number of miles driven since we purchased the car. You only get one shot at it, otherwise you have to send the box in to Dakota Digital to change it. The Fuel Gauge sending unit type will also need to be selected (0-90 ohms for this car).

You can use the buttons on the dash, an external switch (purchased separately Part#391184), your smart phone or I-Pad to program the dash display (Bluetooth) at any time. You can change the default display and alarm parameters, change the display colors, both day & night, set the buzzer tone and volume, and much more.

It took me a couple months to complete the project but was well worth the time and money.  
And Anna likes it!

Eugene



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

Mid America Chevelle Club Apparel and prior Show Shirts will be available for purchase at the Club Meetings. Limited sizes and colors available.

### **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)

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.

Contact Norman at 913-601-2784

64 to 71 Chevy factory parts book, 396 power steering pump and bracket, 3 old holly carburetors

72 Chevy van owners manual, 72 gmc truck owners manual, 73 chevelle owners manual

70 Chevelle owners manual, 64 to 71 Chilton manual, 1957 Chilton manual, 1958 Chilton manual

69 chevelle door lock knows, Ram horn exhaust manifolds

