



**FEBRUARY 2024**



**WORLD OF WHEELS WINNERS!**

**MEMBERS WINTER PROJECTS**

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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 sent directly to members and can also be found on the club’s website at <http://midamericachevelles.com>. 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. Contact the editor (Kirby Demott) at 913/269-4351 or [khdemott@gmail.com](mailto:khdemott@gmail.com).

**Board Information**

- Chair:** Roger Verstraete  
**Co-Chair:** Brian Findley  
**Secretary:** Debbie Gragg  
**Treasurer:** Eugene Hallouer  
**At Large:** Randy Cummins  
**At Large:** John Gragg
- Newsletter Editor:** Kirby Demott



## **Monthly Meeting Agenda**

Call to Order  
Introductions  
Reports/Discussion  
Upcoming Events  
Report of Treasurer  
Additional Items  
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

You can also renew your dues by Credit / Debit card on the club website at [http://www.midamericachevelles.com/members/join\\_form.html](http://www.midamericachevelles.com/members/join_form.html). 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). Please note that a \$2.00 convenience fee will apply when using this option.

Lastly, you can of course still join or renew by Cash or Check by simply getting with Eugene at the monthly meeting.

## **Meeting Minutes**

MID-AMERICA CHEVELLE CLUB  
SUBSTITUTE LOCATION: MINSKY'S PIZZA  
January 25, 2024  
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by President Verstraete. There were no guests and no introductions made.

The Minutes, as published in the newsletter, were accepted. It was noted that Mr. DeMott is doing a great job with the newsletters.

Mr. Verstraete thanked Mr. Cunningham and others involved in coordinating the Christmas Party. He noted that the same room is reserved for next year but will be a week later than our previous dates.



Mr. Calder informed the members present of the 2024 Regionals, hosted by the Wichita Area Chevelle Owners, in June. He noted the show will be hosted at an area of Wichita State University. Information available currently: \$40.00 registration for cars; \$60.00 for judged cars; pre-registration for t-shirts; host hotel is the Hyatt, on-line registration only at \$139.00 (plus tax) each day.

Mr. Findley informed attendees of the 2024 Fall Car Show. The date is September 28, hosted at the Embassy Suites, Olathe (K-10 and Ridgeview) at \$174.00 per night, with a 10% off coupon for restaurant. The location will accommodate trailer parking and allow for indoor registration. On-line registration is currently ready.

Mr. Verstraete indicated the 2025 Regional show is tentatively scheduled by Heartland Chevelle Club. He added that if that club is unable, MACC could host.

Mr. Calder stated that four members of the Events Committee met to discuss events. He first noted that the World of Wheels is scheduled for early February. April 27 is the date of the Caffeine and Chrome cruise which will feature Chevelles. First Fridays will again be featured monthly events – May 3 will be hosted by Randy Cummins. More information regarding events will be forthcoming.

It was announced that member Russ Peters is having health problems, and all were asked to keep in thoughts and prayers.

Members were encouraged to suggest ideas for getting more members to participate in events.

Mr. Hallouer overviewed the expenditures and revenues to date. He announced that currently there are 111 memberships.

Joedy Terrill won the \$25.00 drawing.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Submitted by:

Debra S. Gragg, Secretary

### **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 Graphics Designer:**

Lynn Clark

**Events Committee:**

Steve Calder chairman  
John Prouty  
Russ Peters  
Brian Findley  
Ray Harper

**Christmas Party Staff:**

Tim Cunningham  
Jeff Long

**Charitable Organization Committee:**

John & Debra Gragg  
John Freeman

**Facebook Administrators:**

Roger Verstraete  
Ed Smoot  
Dean Call

**Chevelle Mechanical Advisory Committee:**

John Freeman  
Jeff Long

**Chevelle Appraisal Committee:**

Brian Findley  
Roger Verstraete  
Jeff Long



## Events attended by MACC last month

February 2-4: World of Wheels, Bartle Hall, KCMO

The KC World of Wheels was held about a month earlier than last year. There were a few less cars this year overall, but still almost filled Bartle Hall. Three MACC members participated in the club show group. They were Jim & Pam Garnett with their 70 Malibu Convertible, Ashlynn Needham with her 67 SS396 Chevelle, and Steve Calder with his 72 GMC Sprint. All three won first place in their class! The photos below include their cars and other Chevelles and El Caminos in attendance.



MACC February 24 Newsletter



February 24: Gateway Classics Caffeine & Chrome, Olathe, KS

Several MACC members enjoyed getting their cars out on a very mild day in February and attended this event last Saturday.



## **Calendar of Upcoming Events 2024**

April 6---Cars and Coffee at Kansas Speedway 8a.m.-10a.m.

April 13---KC Showdown Car Show E.H. Young Park Riverside, MO Noon-6 \$25

April 20—Muscle Cars KC Grain Valley, MO New location

April 27—Featured club at Gateway Classic Cars Caffeine and Chrome Lunch after

May 3--- First Friday Cruise-In hosted by Randy Cummins

May 5---Cruise the Burg Car Show Louisburg, KS Sunday Show

May 10-11—Loafers Car Show Hannibal, MO drive on Friday Show on Saturday

May 11---Pete and Jakes Car Show Peculiar, MO proceeds benefit JDRF

May 31-June 1—37<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Chevelle Regional Car Show

Wichita State University Braeburn Square, 21<sup>st</sup> Street and

Oliver, Wichita Host hotel Hyatt Place at Wichita State University

4703 E 19<sup>th</sup> Street North Wichita, KS Special rate of \$139 plus tax

Hyatt link coming





June 7—First Friday Cruise-In—Brian and Sandy Findley  
June 8—Paola Car Show  
June 16—MACC Spring Picnic Black Hoof Park-Oak Shelter Lenexa, KS--Sunday  
June 22---Missouri State Penitentiary Tour Jefferson City, MO \$25 per ticket  
June 29—Street Outlaws Drag Racing Flying H Drag Strip Odessa, MO

July 5-7---Goodguys Car Show Des Moines, IA  
July 20—36<sup>th</sup> Annual Lions Club Show Simpson Park Chillicothe, MO

August 2—First Friday Cruise-In Host needed  
August 30—Wellsville Car Show Wellsville, KS

September 6-----First Friday Cruise-In John and Phyllis Prouty  
September 14---Turkey Creek Car Show Merriam, KS  
September 15---Shawnee Town Wheels and Dreams Car Show  
September 21—Ol' Marias River Run Ottawa, KS  
September 28—MACC Chevelle Show Olathe Conference Center at Embassy  
Suites 10401 Ridgeview Road Olathe, KS

October 4-----First Friday Cruise-In Host needed  
October 5-----Burg Fest Car Show Warrensburg, MO  
October 19-----Cars in the Park Shawnee, KS

November 22-23--Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals Rosemont, IL

December 14----MACC Christmas Party Thompsons Barn Lenexa, KS

\*Every Friday---Michael Day Cruise IN American Legion 410 E Dennis Olathe  
5p.m. to 9p.m.

\*Every Saturday—Noland Road Cruise Night Independence, MO 5p.m. to ?

Click on this link anytime to see a list of these and many other car-related events going on in the  
Kansas City metropolitan area: <https://kansascityautomuseum.com/event-finder/>

Steve Calder Events Coordinator  
Russ Peters  
Brian Findley  
John Prouty  
Ray Harper

Steve Calder  
MACC Events Coordinator  
[sjc52@aol.com](mailto:sjc52@aol.com)  
816-547-1206 cell/text



## **MACC Ladies Column**

Stay tuned for more information in future newsletters.

## **President's Column**

Hi MACC,

I know some of you are working on some winter projects on your cars. Please feel free to share them with Kirby so he can put them in the newsletter. Here is what I've been working on since the first of the year.

When I bought my convertible back in 2015, it came with a blue interior kit. My car was originally Astro Blue with a Bright Blue interior. I decided I liked the color Fathom Blue better and that was the color I had it painted. The blue interior would work with either color, so I went ahead and installed the new interior when I restored the car. The only thing I didn't like about the interior kit was that it was made by PUI interiors. I figured it would be fine and just have to make do. About 2 years ago, I started having issues with one of my door panels. The chrome stripes were coming off the door panels. I tried everything to glue them back on, but they kept coming loose. I also noticed the front seat covers were showing a lot of wear and sitting in the seats I could tell the springs were worn out too. So, about a year and half ago I decided it was time to fix this stuff and ordered new front seat covers, new foam for the seats, and new door panels and carpet from Legendary. As many of you know, Legendary interior makes the best interior kits, and their quality is second to none. When I restored the car, I ordered a bright blue carpet to match the color of the seats but it too was not holding up well either and was getting dirty even though I keep my cars really clean. So, this was the perfect time to change carpet and put the correct color of carpet in also. Dark blue was the original color that it should be. When I ordered everything through Legendary, to my surprise it was a 9 month wait time to get my stuff. Well, that killed my plans for last winter's project and pushed the interior project to this winter. Everything came in last summer and I finally got started after the first of the year. After taking out the seats and carpet, I took my bucket seats to the guy who installed my convertible top. I got a call from him about a week later and he said "I've got some bad news and some good news, what do you want to hear first." I hate hearing that because all that means is more money. The bad news was the springs were shot and the good news was he could save them, but it would take a lot of work and material to repair the seat frames. He also said the guy who put my old seat covers on the first time did me no favors by not rebuilding the seat frames 8 years ago. So, what are you going to do but rebuild the seat frames and go from there. About a month later, they were done and looked better than new. Here is a picture of them before I installed them.





Before I took the seats to have new seat covers installed, I repainted all the interior paint parts including the console and kick panels. For the correct color paint you need to go down to True Auto Parts in Merriam, Kansas and have them mix the color of paint you want and then they can put paint into spray cans for you. While the seats were being done, I got the carpet installed. I learned a few tricks doing this a second time. One was after you get the carpet laid in the correct location, install some bolts with big washers where the seat belts fasten to the floor to hold the carpet in place. This ensures that the carpet will not move on you, and then you can start trimming the excess carpet that's not needed. Another tip is to leave the extra carpet that goes up the kick panel's sides. The kick panels will cover the extra carpet and that way you don't have any gaps showing after you reinstall the kick panels. Here are pictures of the carpet with the repainted console installed, and with the seats then installed.



A few other notes about installing the new carpet. When you receive it, take it out of the box and lay it flat on the floor for some time. It's better to let it set in the sun for a day if the weather is right. Start with the back piece and get it centered as close as you can and tape it down in place. Now you are ready to start installing the front carpet. If you have a four speed or an automatic shift

on the floor you will have to cut a slit in the carpet to start laying the front piece. Make sure you take your time and measure it several times to make sure the slit is in the right place. You don't want to mess this up. Laying the front piece is the hardest part. Make sure you have it centered and take your time and check everything you do several times. Be very patient and if you get frustrated walk away and take a break or come back the next day. You want to work from the center out to the doors. If you have to screw down a trim ring around the transmission shifter, be very careful not to let the screw catch the new piece of carpet because it will pull a long string of carpet thread out. After tucking the carpet under the fire wall insulation and cutting the dimmer switch hole, it's time to trim the door openings. Just take your time and do not be in a hurry and everything will work out. Install the door sill plates and you're done.

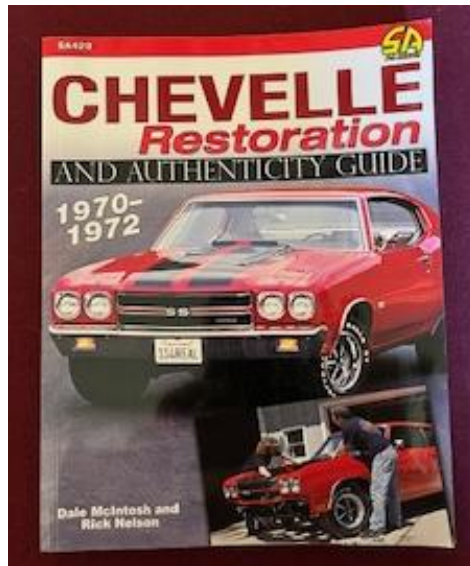
If you have never installed sound deadener under your carpet, this is the time to do so. It's worth the time and money and is not hard. I would suggest cleaning the floor pans and putting a fresh coat of primer paint on your floor pan. The sound deadener will stick better, and you will have very little chance of your floors rusting out under the new sound deadener.

The last thing I had to do was to install the door panels. I have power windows, so I had to cut a bigger hole to accommodate the window switch in both new door panels. Most cars don't have electric windows so there is nothing to cut out from the new panels. It's pretty straight forward on what to do. You just put new ones on just like you took off the old ones.



This was a very satisfying project for me. When I did this the first time, I think I was frustrated and just trying to get my car finished. The carpet I bought the first time didn't fit very well and I was having problems getting it to lie down flat like it should. This time the carpet fit great, and I was very careful with what I was doing. I was never satisfied with the results of the interior the first time and knew I didn't give it my best effort and it showed. It is easy to blame other people for not doing good work or some of the material is not perfect as it should be. But what it really comes down to is my mistakes for not getting the right people to work on my car and not using the

best seat covers the first time. Also, I must admit I did have a little help this time. I bought a book written by Dale McIntosh and Rick Nelson called Chevelle Restoration. It's a step-by-step guide with detail pictures on how to restore 70-72 SS Chevelles. It is a great book and I highly recommend it to anyone restoring a Chevelle and for any other kind of reference needed. Rick Nelson is considered the top Chevelle restoration guy in the US. Dale knows more about the details on Chevelles and has several books published on factory spec and statistics. I wished this book was around when I was restoring my convertible. It would have been such a great help. Here is a picture of the front of their book.



Well, I hope this article will help anyone who is thinking about installing new carpet or doing some interior upgrades.

Hope to see everyone soon. Car season is just around the corner.

*Roger*

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

Hello MACC,

Like many who have a Chevelle, the car is always a project. So, like many, I started a project on my recently acquired 1971 Chevelle. I talked last month about project number one (installation of a vintage air system), so let's continue with project number two, changing out the original analog dash for a Digital Dakota dash. Dakota Digital is another company like Vintage Air, providing great support and instructions for installation.

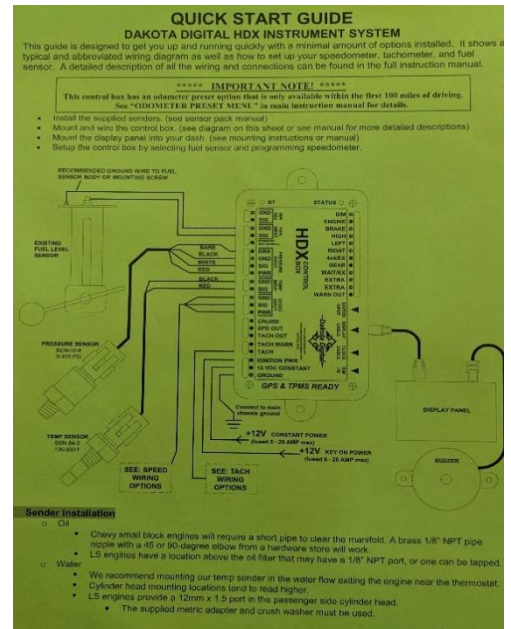
As with any project, start with reading through the instructions. This will help with determining where you tap into the existing wiring harness to get the feeds you need for your new digital dash. The digital dash provides a unit that converts the electronic signal for the digital dash, I would



recommend finding where you will mount the converter before you start running your wiring. This will ensure that your wires will be long enough.

Dakota provides you with a new oil sending unit, temperature sending unit and speedometer adapter all with wires long enough to reach the converter. From there you will need to identify the wires for your turn signals, back lighting, hot (power) wire, and a good ground. Check with the club members for a wiring diagram, it proved to be invaluable.

As you can see Dakota does a good job of providing illustration to assist you with installation. It is a job that anyone can accomplish with a little time and patience. Once you have all your wiring completed and everything all buttoned up then the fun begins, "Programming your dash".



One feature available to change is the lighting for daytime and the lighting for nighttime.



Daytime Lighting



Nighttime Lighting

The nice thing is when all done, it looks good and fits in the original dash providing an original look.





If you are not into wanting to keep your Chevelle all original, I highly recommend you consider changing your dash from the analogy to a Dakota Digital with all the bells and whistles. It is definitely worth the time.

Have fun on your next project.

Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Brian Findley

### **New Members**

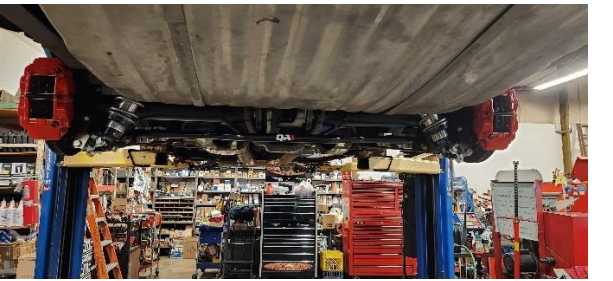
Sam & Sue Evins  
20110 West 115<sup>th</sup> Terr  
Olathe, KS 66061  
Cell # 913-368-4596  
e-mail: samevins@hotmail.com  
Member# 529  
1969 Daytona Yellow SS396  
Interests: Car Shows

### **Member's Corner**

*Tell the story about how you came to love Chevelles or even share some experience with your projects. All are welcome.*



Chuck Doyle had some upgrades done to his '67 Super Sport Chevelle over the winter by Midwestern Mechanical Specialties, aka John Freeman. Those improvements included a complete QA1 suspension system, a Wilwood rear disc brake conversion kit, and a newly rebuilt 12-bolt rearend. Check out the pictures below.







Jeff Long recently completed a complete frame-off restoration of his '71 Super Sport El Camino. Jeff did nearly 100% of it himself, including the mechanics, bodywork and paint. Jeff said he did get some valuable help during the build from several MACC members. The work took about 2-years and included new quarter panels, inner and outer wheel houses, door skins, fenders, and cowl induction hood. The body was painted Daytona yellow in pieces and then put back together on the frame. The frame was completely powder coated and all the suspension components were rebuilt. The drive train includes a crate LS7 454 "detuned" to LS6 specifications to make it a little more street-friendly, an M22 4-speed, and a 12-bolt positrac rearend with 410 ring and pinion gears. Jeff did almost all of the work at home in his garage, other than the paint work which was done in a friends paint booth. Here are some photos taken during the restoration and during one of its first outings.







**Sponsors**



Tim Cunningham  
913-927-0378



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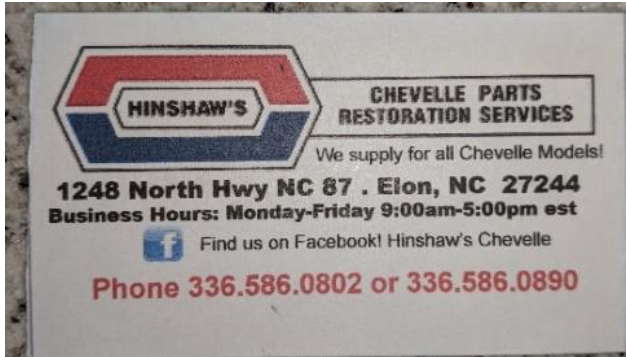
*We offer vehicle maintenance, service & repair.  
Feel free to call or come by our location anytime.*

**Hagerty Insurance**



Don Burdolski, CIC, CRIS, MBA  
Agent  
10278 Garnett Street  
Overland Park, Kansas 66214  
[dburdolski@kc.rr.com](mailto:dburdolski@kc.rr.com)  
816-678-3593





### Mid-America Chevelle Club Apparel for Sale

Mid America Chevelle Club Apparel, and prior Car Show Shirts, can be purchased at Club Meetings. Limited sizes and colors are available.

### Mid-America Chevelle Club Parts for Sale

*If you have any car parts you would like to sell email your list of parts to [khdemott@gmail.com](mailto:khdemott@gmail.com)*

Roger Verstraete has the following items he is selling. If interested give him a call at 913-207-3374.

New set of 14" front brake rotors still in the box. \$100 for the pair.



1970 Parking lamp housings with new lens. \$75 for the pair.



14" front disc brakes caliper brackets. Hard to find, you need these if you are using 14" wheels. \$75.



Rear control arm brackets for 70-72 Chevelle. Great condition \$50



One 70 heater cover with fan motor. \$50



Neutral start switch and wiring harness Still in box. Brand new. List price on Ground Up is \$110 plus shipping. My price is \$75



Brain Findley has the following items for sale. If interested, contact Brian Findley at 913-558-1453 or [findley13703@gmail.com](mailto:findley13703@gmail.com) No reasonable offer refused.

Miscellaneous factory AC components for a 1970 – 1972 Chevelle. Some of the components are:

- Compressor
- Factory AC line
- Condenser
- Evaporator
- Heater core
- Fan
- Heater box – could be revived.



Summit 4-barrel carburetor removed from a small block.  
\$50.00

