



Regionnaire

MARCH 2024



A newsletter of the Southern California Region of the
Vintage Chevrolet Club of America by and for its members



Director's Message

Hello Chevy Friends,

Happy March! Spring is right around the corner and it's time to drive our Chevy's! We had an amazing time hosting our region's tour to the Browning Collection on February 24th. We had a huge turn out with 50 members from four regions joining us to see the beautiful cars, radios, boats, and memorabilia. Then we all had a delicious lunch at Wood Ranch afterwards. Thank you to everyone who came out to participate. Up next is the Foothill Region's tour on March 9th to the NHRA Museum in Pomona. Then our region will have hosting duties once again with a tour on April 20th to the Flight Path Museum in Los Angeles. Fun times are ahead!

We will be having our bimonthly business meeting this month at 11:00 am on Saturday, March 23rd at Rosewood Restaurant in Cerritos. Please come out and join us. I look forward to seeing you all at one of our exciting upcoming events. Until then, happy driving, stay safe and be well.

Sabrina Karras, 2024 Director, So. Cal Region VCCA

"The Worlds Best Chevrolet Club!" "Dedicated to the restoration, preservation, and enjoyment of all Chevrolets and GMC's."

1964: The Return of the El Camino

After a three-year hiatus, in 1964 the El Camino returned to the Chevrolet lineup, this time based on the intermediate-sized Chevelle platform.

Not long after the original El Camino was discontinued at the end of the 1960 model year, due in part to declining sales, work was already under way at Chevrolet on its successor. A compact pickup based on the 1962 Chevy II—and much like the Falcon Ranchero—was seriously considered (see our feature here) but the work soon shifted to the Chevelle, still in development and scheduled for a MY 1964 release.

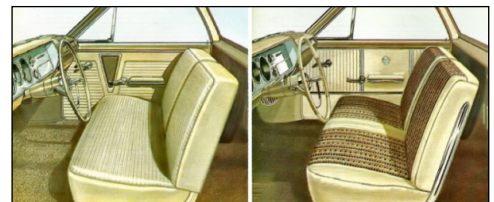
Based as it was on the mid-sized General Motors A-body platform with body-on-frame construction and a 115-inch wheelbase, the Chevelle was the more suitable package for the hybrid car/pickup, it was decided. By October of 1962, detailed renderings were produced (above) and by November a full-sized fiberglass mockup was completed, with its body shell designed to share a number of sheet metal components with the station wagon. The production El Camino was ready for dealer introduction on September 28, 1963 along with the rest of the Chevrolet line for 1964.

The A-body platform was well-suited for a second-generation El Camino, it turned out: At 73.5 inches, the cargo bed was actually several inches longer than that of the full-sized '59-'60 El Camino and significantly wider than the compact Ranchero's. Rated load capacity was up to 1200 lbs, and rear air shocks were standard. A filler valve in the cabin behind the passenger seat enabled owners to adjust the rear ride height to compensate for heavy loads.

At the fall '63 introduction, four available engines were announced: two inline sixes of 190 and 230 cubic inches, and a pair of 283 cubic-inch V8s with 195 hp (two-barrel carburetor) and 220 hp (four-barrel). But in December, Chevrolet expanded the choices to include two 327 cubic-inch V8s of 250 and 300 hp. (However, the L74 300 hp version was delayed by production problems and few were built) Chevrolet engineering did build at least one evaluation vehicle in '64 equipped with the 327 CID, 365-hp L76 Special High Performance V8, reportedly, but it didn't make production.

Compared to what would come in later El Caminos, the '64 interiors were remarkably plain. The Standard model (left) offered all-vinyl seats and a rubber floor mat, while the Custom (right) sported vinyl with nylon inserts and real pile carpeting. As an extra-cost option on the Custom, bucket seats were also available, and when combined with the four-speed transmission a console was included. On the exterior, the Custom features included bright-metal wheel-opening and rocker panel moldings.

Despite the three-year vacation from the market—or maybe because of it—the new El Camino was a solid seller, as more than 32,500 went out the door. The best the El Camino had done in its previous generation was 22,000 in '59. Sales and production cruised along at that level or better all through the sixties, ultimately reaching an all-time peak of 57,000 in 1972. The mid-sized El Camino, still based on the same GM A/G-body platform, maintained a place in the Chevrolet lineup through 1987.





**February 24th
tour to the Kent
Browning
Collection in
Cerritos hosted by
our So Cal Region**



**We had 50
members attend
the tour and we
had a delicious
lunch afterwards
at Wood Ranch
Cerritos**







Good looks never carried so much weight!

Chevrolet Task-Force 59 Trucks

Here's the handsomest thing that ever happened to hauling—the new El Camino, combining the stunning style of a '59 Chevrolet passenger car with the cargo capacity of a pickup. It's another example of the added prestige Chevrolet trucks bring to your business—from the Sunday-go-to-meeting look of the new Fleet-side pickups (available with new two-toning as an extra-cost option) to the built-for-stamina styling of heavy-duty models. Your dealer's waiting now to show you the entire new Chevrolet Task-Force 59 lineup—the best yet of the best sellers—with *new might, new models, new money-saving power.*

CHEVROLET DIVISION OF GENERAL MOTORS, DETROIT 2, MICHIGAN



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2, 2024 - [Kimmie's Cruise In - 8:00 am to 2:00 pm](#)
Kimmie's Coffee Cup - 9935 Walker Ave, Cypress, CA

March 3, 2024 - [Pomona Swap Meet & Classic Car Show - 5:00 am - 2:00 pm](#)
Pomona Fairplex - 1101 W. McKinley Avenue, Pomona, CA

March 10, 2024 - [Hi-Performance Swap Meet & Car Show - 6:00 am to 1:00 pm](#)
Veteran's Stadium - 5000 Lew Davis Street, Long Beach, CA

March 24, 2024 - [Shore Shifters Cars & Coffee - 8:00 am to 10:00 am](#)
Junipero Beach - 2100 E. Ocean Blvd, Long Beach, CA

Area 1 Tour Hosted by the Foothill Region VCCA

NHRA MotorSports Museum

MARCH 9, 2024



BREAKFAST BEFORE THE TOUR!

We'll meet at 9:00 am Norm's Hangar Coffee Shop for breakfast to start our day. Norm's is located at Brackett Field Airport at the end of Pomona Fairplex at 1615 McKinley Ave, La Verne, CA 91750.



NHRA MOTORSPORTS MUSEUM TOUR BEGINS AT 10:30 AM

We'll tour the Museum's collection of dragsters, land speed vehicles, race cars, customs, hot rods and a changing array of one-of-a-kind vehicles that tell the story of American hot rodding.

Tickets are \$6.00 and can be purchased at the museum on that day.

Museum is located at 1101 McKinley Ave., Pomona, CA 91768

A caravan for those traveling from Orange County will meet at 8:00 am in Tustin at Enderle Center.



**TOUR ELIGIBLE FOR
PASSPORT MILES!**



RSVP to Sabrina Karras at: ☎ (714) 287-4757 ✉ sabrinakarras@aol.com



Meeting This Month!



Saturday, March 23rd at 11:00 am

ROSEWOOD FAMILY RESTAURANT

10769 South Street, Cerritos, CA 90703 off the 605 Fwy at South Street

DIRECTIONS:

605 Fwy North – exit South St. Turn left at the end of the off ramp. Pass Studebaker Rd and over the San Gabriel River. Rosewood Restaurant is on the right side of the street in the same center as SkyZone Trampoline Park and across from the CVS.

605 Fwy South – exit South St. Turn right at the end of the off ramp. Pass Studebaker Rd and over the San Gabriel River. Rosewood Restaurant is on the right side of the street in the same center as SkyZone Trampoline Park and across from the CVS.

Please RSVP to Sabrina Karras at (714) 287-4757 or sabrinakarras@aol.com

Happy Birthday

Bill Ingalls - March 9th
Eileen Cochran - March 13th
Sabrina Karras - March 29th

Happy Anniversary

Jim & Sabrina Karras - April 22nd
Johnnie & Linda Adkisson - April 26th

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION FUNDRAISER

Baseball Cap with Embroidered VCCA Logo

Cap Features: Comfortable & Adjustable Size

High Quality Tan Cotton Twill Custom Embroidery of Front

Email questions to:
hats@scracca.org

Make Checks Payable To:
So Cal Region VCCA

Mail order to:
Jim Karras #43031
829 E. Van Bibber Ave
Orange, CA 92866

\$25

Includes Domestic Shipping

New VCCA Logo

Order Now at SCRVCCA.org



Southern California Region

Vintage Chevrolet Club of America



829 E. Van Bibber Ave, Orange, CA 92866
Phone: (714) 633-8210 • Fax: (714) 633-8261
E-mail: sabrinakarras@aol.com • Internet: scrvcva.org

General Meeting – Saturday, January 20, 2024 – 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Rosewood's Family Restaurant – 10769 South Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** – *Sabrina Karras* Sabrina called the meeting to order at 11:18 am.
 - A) **Members Present** – Those members present were Jim and Judy Lundal, Bill and Colleen Ingalls, and Jim and Sabrina Karras.
2. **Administrative Actions**
 - A) **Treasurer's Report** – Sabrina gave the treasurer's report. Sabrina reported that the region continues to be in a good financial position. Colleen moved, Judy the second, motion carried.
 - B) **Hat Sales Report** – Jim reported we have sold two hats since the last meeting. Sales price was increased from \$20 to \$25 effective January 1, 2024. The inventory was restocked by 72 hats in December and paid for out of the general fund per previous membership approval.
 - C) **Approval of November 18, 2023, Meeting Minutes** – Jim Karras presented the minutes of the January meeting. Colleen moved approval of the minutes, Bill offered the second, the motion carried.
3. **Committee Reports**
 - A) **Membership Committee** – Jim reported he will email invitations to new Area 1 National members.
 - B) **Tour Director** – Sabrina reported plans for our region hosted tour to the Kent Browning Collection for February 24th. So far there are 25 members attending. The region will be paying for coffee and donuts for the meet and greet before the tour. The Foothill Region is hosting a tour to the NHRA Museum on March 9th. Our So Cal Region will be hosting a tour to the Flight Path Museum in Los Angeles on April 20th with breakfast beforehand. Those plans are still in the works.
3. **Unfinished Business**
 - A) **Possible Merger of Regions** – Further discussion was had regarding the continuing issue of possibly combining our region with the Foothill Region. It was decided by both regions to be tabled at this time.
 - B) **Joint Car Show** – Further discussion was had regarding a possible car show with the Foothill Region. It will be explored further at future meetings.
4. **New Business**
 - A) **Membership Recruitment** – Discussion was brought up regarding the possibility of having region members going to local cruise-ins to reach out to potential new members and do recruitment for our region. There was interest and there will be further discussion at future meetings.
5. **Upcoming Events** – Sabrina asked Jim to present the upcoming events list.
6. **Membership Comments** – Colleen Ingalls invited everyone to Bill's 89th birthday open house on Saturday, March 16th at their home in Buena Park. Contact her to RSVP and for more details.
7. **Next Meeting(s)**: Saturday, March 23, 2024, at Rosewood's Family Restaurant – Cerritos.
8. **Adjournment** – Sabrina called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Colleen moved, Bill offered the second, the motion carried. Sabrina adjourned the meeting at 12:08 pm.

Respectfully prepared and submitted by, Jim Karras, Secretary

Dedicated to the preservation and restoration of Chevrolets

Purpose

The Southern California Region of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America ("VCCA") was organized to promote the restoration and preservation of Chevrolets and welcomes everyone with an interest in the history of Chevrolet and sharing knowledge and experiences about these wonderful automobiles.

Our region is comprised of both single and married members who join together at many fun events including; tours, picnics, car shows, banquets and other interesting outings.

Membership and Dues

An active member is defined as an individual who has paid dues to both the National VCCA and the Southern California Region. Ownership of a Chevrolet is not a requirement of membership.

National Dues: Dues for the National VCCA are \$40.00 per year for a regular membership or \$25.00 per year for an online membership. National Dues include membership card, badge, club decal, and monthly publication – the *Generator and Distributor*.

Southern California Region Dues: Dues for the Southern California Region are \$15.00 per year. Dues are payable on or before December 1st. An active member receives a bi-monthly newsletter – the *Regionnaire* and notification of all club activities. An active member may participate in the business meetings and all club events, both regional and national.

SCRVCCA Leadership Contact Information

Director: Sabrina Karras; Phone - (714) 633-8210; E-mail - sabrinakarras@aol.com

Assistant Director: Jim Karras - (714) 633-8210; E-mail - jimkarras@aol.com

Secretary: Jim Karras - (714) 633-8210; E-mail - jimkarras@aol.com

Treasurer: Sabrina Karras; Phone - (714) 633-8210; E-mail - sabrinakarras@aol.com

Membership Secretary: Jim Karras - (714) 633-8210; E-mail - jimkarras@aol.com

Tour Director: Jim Karras - (714) 633-8210; E-mail - jimkarras@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Sabrina Karras; Phone - (714) 633-8210; E-mail - sabrinakarras@aol.com

Webmaster & Social Media Coordinator: Jim Karras - (714) 633-8210; E-mail - jimkarras@aol.com

Other VCCA Resources

Southern California Region Web Site

www.scrvcca.org

National VCCA Web Site

www.vcca.org

VCCA Internet Chat Forum

www.vcca.org/forum/

VCCA Area #1 Board Member

Dean Echols (928) 710-4325

deanechols38@gmail.com & www.area1vcca.org

VCCA Member Services

(708) 455-VCCA (8222)

memberservices@vcca.org

Regionnaire Publication Information

The Regionnaire is published every other month. Ads and other contributions from members are welcome for publication in the Regionnaire. The deadline for all contributions is the first Tuesday of every other month.



THE VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA INC.

Southern California Region



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name _____ Birthdate _____
Spouse _____ Anniversar _____
Address _____ Unit No. _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Home Phone _____ Cell (Member) _____ Cell (Spouse) _____
Email (Member) _____ Email (Spouse) _____

Are you a member of the National Vintage Chevrolet club? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES: Your membership number: _____ **If NO:** It is a prerequisite for becoming a member of a local region. Yearly dues for National Membership are listed below and are forwarded to the National Organization. Dues for Southern California Region membership is \$15.00 per year.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION DUES\$ 15.00 per year

NATIONAL DUES ☐ RENEWAL ☐ NEW

☐ Digital Membership (Member, Spouse & Children), two votes \$ 25.00 per year

☐ Periodical Membership (Member, Spouse & Children), two votes \$ 40.00 per year

TOTAL ENCLOSED\$ _____

NOTE: FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES ALL REGION MEMBERS MUST JOIN NATIONAL IN ORDER TO JOIN THE REGION. If you send the Southern California Region your national dues, we will send them on to National.

REGION: All members receive a monthly Region newsletter and information on upcoming events and tours.

NATIONAL: All new members will receive a club badge, decal, membership card and the national magazine, Generator & Distributor. Members are entitled to free classified advertising in the club magazine and participation in Vintage Chevrolet Club activities. Members are entitled to free classified advertising, access to member-only website features, and participation in all VCCA activities. Chevrolet ownership is not a requirement for membership. Dues are non-refundable.

The purpose of the VCCA is to promote interest in the preservation and restoration of vintage Chevrolets.

If you presently own a Chevrolet, please fill in below.

Year	Model	Body Style	Cyl.	Condition
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Recruited by (VCCA member recruiting optional) _____ VCCA # _____

FOR CLUB USE ONLY

Paid \$ _____ Check/Cash
Date Paid _____
Region Membership Number _____

Return complete form and mail with dues to:
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION VCCA – Attn: Sabrina Karras
829 E Van Bibber Ave., Orange, CA 92866-2063

X _____
Applicant's Signature