



## December 2017

### The View from the Top.

#### December 2017

As we near the end of 2017, I can't help but reflect a little.

When joining the Club in 1995 I was single and living with my parents, Shelley had just graduated high school the year before and our kids weren't even thought of yet. What we didn't realize then is we had just joined a car club that would change our lives forever and introduce us to many great friends.

When we joined the club Doug & Anita welcomed us with open arms, we spent many weekend together that 1st several years. I think we hit just about every car show within 200 miles as well as Camaro Superfest, the CICC show and the NE-OCC show that summer. Its hard to believe that it will be 7 years ago this month that we all lost him. And just a few months ago we lost Anita.

I wonder if we will still be in the club in another 20 years? Or if even the club will still be around. I wonder if we'll even be driving cars then? Only time will tell. So as we head into 2018, let's live for the moment, with an eye on the future, and a

fondness for our past. In the end, the best part of the Club is and always will be, all the friends we've made, so let's especially keep that tradition alive!

#### WMCC Christmas Party December 9, 2017

Tis the season to rock UGLY sweaters! Grab the ugliest sweater you have and join us in the WMCC ugly sweater contest. Prizes will be awarded for the UGLYEST sweater. Also be prepared we will be doing a white elephant gift (no more than \$20 per person) see official rules for white elephant gift exchange on page 2

Carl Lins has made all the arrangements for the annual WMCC Christmas party. This year we will at the DoubleTree hotel in Grand Rapids again.

#### **Where:**

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Grand Rapids Airport  
4747 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan,  
49512-1915, TEL: 616-957-0100

#### **When:**

December 9, 2017

#### **Time:**

05:00-12:00pm- (Well that's when we have the room reserved I am sure we can extend or continue as we do every year).

There are rooms available I believe the rate is \$95/Night ht. Make sure to tell them you are with the WMCC Party.

To attend the party you **MUST RSVP** with your name(s) and how many will be attending Please RSVP no later the December 3, 2017.

Email: [wmcamaro@gmail.com](mailto:wmcamaro@gmail.com)

Text: 269-506-0411

#### Membership Dues

This is just a friendly reminder.

Yearly membership dues are due, for most members, in January. If you joined the Club *before* July of 2017, your dues are now due. It's \$30 for a single membership and \$45 for a couple.

Dues may be paid at a club meeting or mailed to the WMCC Membership coordinator Shelley Crippin.

Please make checks payable to:  
"Western Michigan Camaro Club".

Mailing address:  
WMCC Membership  
C/O Shelley Crippin  
56138 Wilbur Road  
Three Rivers, MI 49093



Doug Warren, WMCC Founder  
1953-2010  
You will never be forgotten

The WMCC Christmas Party is Saturday December 9th, 2017. We have the room from 4pm till midnight, dinner will be served around 7pm.

Dinner will be buffet style and consist of...

Mixed Greens Salad

Italian Pasta Salad

Herb Chicken - Herb Seared Chicken Breast with Herb Cream Sauce

Braised Top Round - Slow Roasted with Vegetable Beef Gravy

Warm Rolls and Butter

Chef Selection Fresh Vegetable

Chef Selection Potato

Assorted Desserts

Coffee, Iced Tea & Water.

There will also be a Cash Bar.

I look forward to seeing you all there!!!

### **TOUR deMISSOURI**

The Tour deMissouri is being planned for the last weekend in April, officially April 27-29, 2018! Hosted and planned by Randy Martin. It's a bit of a long haul, but a very fun trip with your fellow Camaro owners and members! More info as we get it from Randy... mark your calendar now!

### **27<sup>th</sup> annual CAMARO SUPERFEST 2018!**

This is an ALL Camaro event based on having fun with you and your Camaro and raising money for worthy charities. We have given \$67,000 in the last 10 years!!

2018 charity is – **STIGGY'S DOGS!**

<http://www.stiggysdogs.org/>



### **Official White Elephant Gift Exchange Rules**

A White Elephant Gift Exchange is a popular Christmas event where people vie to walk away with the best present.

Here are the rules:

**1. Each player brings one wrapped gift to contribute.**

The gift can be anything, you can buy something or re-gift something you already own. It can be a Gage gift, Weird gift, Funny gift, or a Nice gift. Its your choice.

**2. Players draw names to determine what order they will go in.**

**3. The first player selects a gift from the pool and opens it.**

Make sure everyone can see the gift!

**4. The following players can choose to either pick an unwrapped gift from the pool or steal a previous player's gift. Anyone who gets their gift stolen in this way can do the same – choose a new gift or steal from someone else.**

To keep things moving along, there are a couple of limits on gift swapping:

A present can only be stolen once per turn, which means players who have a gift stolen from them have to wait to get it back.

After three swaps, the turn automatically comes to an end (otherwise things could drag on for a *long* time).

**5. After all players have had a turn, the first player gets a chance to swap the gift he or she is holding for any other opened gift. Anyone who's gift is stolen may steal from someone else (as long as that person hasn't been stolen from yet). When someone declines to steal a gift, the game comes to an end.**

Note that for this last "extra" turn, the three-swap rule doesn't apply. Players can keep swapping until someone decides to stand pat, or there are no other eligible people to steal from.

They use rescue dogs to help Veterans with any type of disability!! ***They rescue one to rescue the other!!*** COOL!! Our 2018 goal will be to raise \$15,000!

We do an activity on Friday, possible dinner on Friday and Saturday nights and show & shine on Saturday and Sunday! With over 500 Camaros attending in 2017, we ARE the largest, longest running, friendliest ALL Camaro event in the USA!! Registration will start in February 2018 – watch our website

[www.camarosuperfest.com](http://www.camarosuperfest.com) and our FaceBook page for announcements! Our HQ hotel is the same... Marriott at Eagle Crest in Ypsilanti, MI and they are ready to take your reservations. We hope to see YOU and your Camaro in 2018!!

### **Camaro edges out Mustang to be voted 2017 SEMA show's hottest coupe**

The Ford Mustang [may have just been updated](#) but that didn't help it in the voting for the coveted Hottest Coupe award at this week's 2017 SEMA show. Instead, the title went to the Mustang's arch rival, the Chevrolet Camaro.

The winner was voted in by the more than 2,400 aftermarket firms displaying products at the show. It's an important title as it shows which cars are trending right now and have the most accessories available.

"Every year at the SEMA show, we see vehicles emerge that are embraced by the aftermarket community," SEMA CEO Chris Kersting said in a statement. "SEMA show exhibitors are at the forefront of the industry and have the unique ability to identify the hottest vehicles emerging for future trends."

The Mustang is the perennial winner of the title and likely only missed out this year due to many aftermarket firms missing out on early access to the latest 2018 model in order to develop parts.



And other Ford cars are also favorites among the aftermarket firms.

For example, this year the Hottest Hatch title went to the Ford Focus and the Hottest Truck title to the Ford F-Series. Cadillac's CTS-V took home the Hottest Sedan title while the Jeep Wrangler was voted the Hottest 4x4-SUV.

For more of our SEMA show coverage, head to [our dedicated hub](#).

[https://www.motorauthority.com/news/1113620\\_camaro-edges-out-mustang-to-be-voted-2017-sema-shows-hottest-coupe](https://www.motorauthority.com/news/1113620_camaro-edges-out-mustang-to-be-voted-2017-sema-shows-hottest-coupe)

### **Chevy showcases Camaro SS Trans-Am race car with ZL1 1LE parts**

Looking past the flashy concepts and pipedream sheet metal at the 2017 SEMA show, there are some tangible parts and components available for performance nuts today.

Chevrolet, in particular, highlighted this Camaro SS Trans-Am racecar which runs production [Camaro ZL1 1LE](#) parts—and anyone can buy them.

Todd Napieralski runs and races the Camaro SS in the Trans-Am TA4 class, and when he built the car with Chevrolet Performance, the team incorporated a number of "concept" ZL1 1LE



parts. Flash forward to the present and many of the concept parts are a reality on the 2018 Camaro ZL1 1LE. Moral of the story: anybody can purchase the parts to make a standard Camaro SS a more competitive racer.

The concept parts equipped include the ZL1 1LE front fascia, grille, dive planes, and the extractor hood. However, Chevrolet Performance also pro-



vided the **Multimatic DSSV** lowering and handling suspension upgrade system, which lowers the ride height by 0.4 inches, provides a 22 percent decrease in roll gradient, and stiffens the front



springs by 245 percent.

In addition to the main Multimatic DSSV system, the company also added a ZL1 1LE-spec suspension upgrade that compliments the original system. It's for on-track use only and offers racers front ride links, front handling links, rear upper and lower trailing links and rear knuckles, as well as stiffer bushings and ball joints to reduce suspension flex.

Compared to a regular Camaro SS, the lower trailing links are 71 percent stiffer and the rear link inner bushings are 58 percent stiffer.

Let's put it this way: the parts are probably much less expensive than placing an order for the **Camaro GT.4 racecar**. That car costs \$259,000. These parts will make a Camaro SS a more potent race car for presumably much less than six figures.

[https://www.motorauthority.com/news/1113631\\_chevy-showcases-camaro-ss-trans-am-race-car-with-zl1-1le-parts](https://www.motorauthority.com/news/1113631_chevy-showcases-camaro-ss-trans-am-race-car-with-zl1-1le-parts)

## THE 2018 POWER LIST

AND THE 49 of the auto industry's top players plus our person of the year.

This is the 13th year that *Motor Trend* has produced its Power List to recognize the movers and shakers who made the biggest impact on the auto industry. 2017 was a year when we saw talk turn to action in an accelerated pursuit of electric and autonomous vehicles. But it did not stop the industry from introducing hypercars, supercars, and huge gobs of horsepower in general. Gasoline engines continue to improve, the word "diesel" is now said almost in a whisper, and new nameplates

populate our roads.

The cars and technology these industry leaders helped make happen show the wild ride is just beginning. Our 50 top players include CEOs—but of equal importance are those who design, engineer, build, and market new cars, trucks, and SUVs. A growing population on our Power List comes from the tech world involved in creating vehicles that double as computers on wheels, have artificial intelligence, and can drive themselves. Some on the list deserve attention for setting rules, others for breaking them. We applaud those who stir the pot and make the industry expand its thinking.

Topping the list is the Person of the Year, the individual who made the biggest impact in 2017. But all 50 are people to watch in the 12 months ahead, and they will undoubtedly be joined by new cast members during this period of rapid change and innovation.

### 50. Johan de Nysschen PRESIDENT OF CADILLAC

2017 Rank: 9

Amid continued reports of **Cadillac** in retreat, de Nysschen keeps fighting for his vision for the brand that he moved to New York three years ago and has been working to redefine ever since. Despite setbacks to an ambitious product plan and a decline in sales in the U.S., Cadillac continues to grow globally, largely helped by sales in China.

### 49. Jamal Hameedi FORD PERFORMANCE CHIEF ENGINEER

2017 Rank: Unranked

The **Ford F-150** Raptor, Hameedi's baby, is still fresh in showrooms, but the chief engineer for Ford Performance has already moved on to a new project: a **Ford Ranger**-Raptor for Australia. (Please, can we have one too?) He has also been working on the Mustang GT500, which should break cover soon. Essentially, Hameedi gets to tinker with all things fun at Ford.

### 47. David Freiburger CO-HOST OF ROADKILL

2017 Rank: Unranked

There is a lot of love for Freiburger, co-host of *Roadkill*, a cool gearhead show he describes as hacking together sketchy cars for stupid fun. But Freiburger is so much more. After years as a print scribe, he currently hosts four shows: *Roadkill* and *Engine Masters* on Motor Trend OnDemand and the *Motor Trend* YouTube channel, as well as *Roadkill Garage* and the daily show *Roadkill Extra* on MTOD. He also has his hands on *Hot Rod Garage* and *Put Up or Shut Up*, is deep into events such as Roadkill Nights as a precursor to the Woodward Dream Cruise in Detroit, and is all over social media, helping forge the path forward for automotive journalism.

### 46. Russ Ruedisueli DIRECTOR OF SRT AND MOTORSPORTS ENGINEERING

2017 Rank: 44

An 840-hp muscle car is not just outrageous. It's also educational. Engineering the Dodge Demon prompted Ruedisueli and his team to modify the **Dodge Challenger** SRT Hellcat's 6.2-liter V-8 and supercharger. The

transmission was upgraded to provide a transbrake to assist with drag-strip launches, and an innovative chilled intercooler system with two air-conditioning systems reduces heat. The result: Dodge and SRT remain cool.

**42. Mary Gustanski**  
**DELPHI VICE PRESIDENT, ENGINEERING AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

2017 Rank: Unranked

An engineer by education and trade, Gustanski oversees the mammoth supplier's 20,000-strong team working on active-safety, autonomous, and self-driving technology. Delphi has partnered with Intel, Mobileye, Blackberry, and others to develop comprehensive technology that any automaker can use for its own self-driving cars.

**40. Al Oppenheiser**  
**GM CHIEF ENGINEER, CHEVROLET CAMARO**

2017 Rank: Unranked

If you have driven the Camaro ZL1 1LE, you will understand why Oppenheiser deserves to be on the Power List. Finishing fourth in *Motor Trend's* Best Driver's Car competition against a pack of six-figure supercars, it is the most track-capable street-legal car GM has ever sold (apologies to Corvette). The beauty is that engineering this exceptional trickles down into the rest of the lineup, making all Chevrolets better for it.

**25. Mark Reuss**  
**GENERAL MOTORS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, GLOBAL PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT, PURCHASING AND SUPPLY CHAIN**

2017 Rank: 7

This is the man with GM's product plan and who is charged with ensuring the lineup is timely, relevant, and desirable. He brought a swath of new crossovers to market at a time when consumers can't get enough of them. Now he is working on the crucial full-size pickups while incorporating new materials and tech for autonomous and electric vehicles. And he walks the walk, putting aside his laptop to spend time behind the wheel to perfect the lineup.

**16. Pam Fletcher**  
**GENERAL MOTORS VICE PRESIDENT, GLOBAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE PROGRAMS**

2017 Rank: Unranked

Fletcher leads the teams that invent, engineer, and produce GM's electrified and autonomous vehicles—meaning Fletcher has the keys to GM's future and must execute the vision of CEO Mary Barra. Developing the new Volt and Bolt were warm-ups. Fletcher's hands are also all over Super Cruise and other advanced technologies where GM has quietly taken leadership. She must now launch 20 new electric vehicles by 2023.

**1. Person of the Year: Mary Barra**  
**CHAIRMAN AND CEO OF GENERAL MOTORS**

2017 Rank: 11

Barra is quietly and efficiently executing GM's plans to

expand into electric vehicles with the remarkable Bolt and at least 20 new EVs by 2023, ride-hailing with partners such as Lyft and the creation of its own car-sharing service, Maven, and autonomous vehicles with Super Cruise and a test fleet of Bolts running around San Francisco. She continues to mind what's popular on the shelves, as well. Most of the crossovers have been redone, and new pickups are in the works. General Motors has shown it knows how to do performance with the powerful Camaro ZL1 1LE, and a mid-engine Corvette is in development. The company has gone from bankruptcy to record net income in one of the most successful business turnarounds in the modern age. Barra has overseen the financial restructuring and continues to make the hard decisions, such as selling underperforming Opel-Vauxhall and reducing production when needed to avoid relying on heavy incentives to move a glut of product. She has also led the cultural transformation needed after GM's ignition switch recall revealed huge cracks in the operation, with a renewed emphasis on quality. The automaker is leaner and more focused while making savvy acquisitions to position itself as a leader in the era to come. In short, Barra gets it, and GM is the stronger for it. At press time, its stock price was at an all-time high.

Full Story and list can be found here...

<http://www.motortrend.com/news/2018-power-list-and-the-person-of-the-year/>



**Don't miss the next WMCC Meeting /  
Christmas party at  
At DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
In Grand Rapids, MI  
See Newsletter for Details.**

### **The Western Michigan Camaro Club**

Is dedicated to the enjoyment, preservation and promotion of the Chevrolet Camaro as the premier four passenger sports car ever. The club was formed in 1975.

### **Meetings**

The WMCC holds monthly membership meetings on the first weekend of each month. Times and location vary, so see the Newsletter or check the club's web site or face book page for specific times and locations, or call one of the officers.

### **WMCC Officers**

President: Gary Crippin 269.506.0411  
Co-Vice President: Carl Lins 269.795.7878  
Co-Vice President: John Falkenhagen 269.795.7612  
Secretary: Bonnie Edwards 517.765.9929  
Membership: Shelley Crippin 269.506.0901  
Newsletter Editor: Gary Crippin 269.273.5051  
Club Archivist: Ray Cochran 616.403.3941

### **Club Sponsor**

**Berger Chevrolet ~ BERGERCHEVY.COM**

### **Website**

[www.wmcamaro.org](http://www.wmcamaro.org)

### **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/westernmichigancamaroclub/>

Watch [www.mifbody.com](http://www.mifbody.com) for the latest info on upcoming **WMCC** events.

### **Camaro Corner**



**56138 Wilbur Road  
Three Rivers, MI 49093**