



## March 2017

# The View from the Top.

### March 2017

Its the end of February and the weather just beautiful. Last weekend we were in Chicago and it was 70 degrees , but thats not the important part. The important part is it's the beginning of March and that could only mean one thing. It means It's almost time to get our Camaros out of winter storage and start driving them again. WOOT! WOOT!

One last thing DUES ARE DUE, if you haven't paid yours yet please do so ASAP. May 1 we will be removing anyone that has not paid their dues from the mailing list. Dues are what keeps this club a float and help pay for club events.

### WMCC March Club Meeting Sunday March 5, 2017

For our March meeting we will be meeting at Brann's in Caledonia, MI. Brann's is located on the corner of M37 & 100th ST SE in Caledonia.

We'll meet at 1pm, I would like to resurrect our annual Camaro Collectable and Die-cast Car show again. We've seen the enthusiasm for this event wane somewhat over the last couple of

years, so instead of making it a "formal" show, with voting and a trophy, let's just call it a "Show & Shine" this time. Let's see bring out those collectables and lets see whatcha got!

**What: WMCC March Meeting**

**Where: Brann's**

**6450 100th St SE Caledonia, MI 49316**

**(616) 891-6055**

**When: March 5th, 2017 @ 1:00 PM**

I hope to see you all there!!!

So mark your calendar and Please plan to attend.

### Berger All GM Show Update

I'm happy to announce that John Force will attend our 18th Annual "All GM Show". John will be signing autographs from 11:30-1:30. One of his Camaro Funny Cars will also be on display. We are also locked-in at Martin US 131 Motorsports park for Friday, August 25 from 11:00-4:00. Bring your car and run it down the quarter mile at one of the Midwest's finest drag strips, Martin US131 Motorsports park. We will be doing a limited number of ride-alongs in COPO NHRA Stock Eliminator Camaros for \$75 each to benefit a charity to be named later. Victor Cagnazzi and the newly crowned NHRA Nation Stock Eliminator Champion, Jeff Strickland will be in attendance with their fleet of GMPartsNow COPO Camaros. That's all the detail I have for now. Hope all is well with the club and membership.

Best Regards,  
Matt Berger

### 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 2015, 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

## May WMCC Meeting Saturday

April 30, 2017

For our May meeting we will again be visiting Great Lakes Auto Appearance where they will be showing and giving some great detailing advice. Great Lakes Chemical Auto Appearance is a professional detailing company that specializes in protective coatings. They are mainly known for their professional paint correction package work, rustproofing/undercoating and many other services. They will review with the club at the meeting. The meeting will be on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Great Lakes Chemical & Auto Appearance, 870 40th SE, Grand Rapids MI 49508. Terry and his Crew have some nice things planned more details to come.

## The F-Body Nationals

September 15-17, 2017

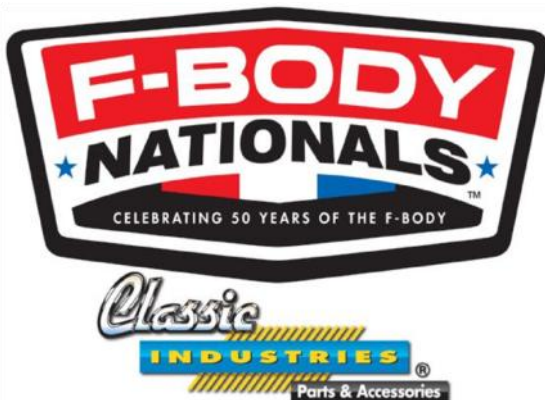
The F-Body Nationals coming to Memphis International Raceway on September 15-17, 2017. Inaugural event celebrates 50 years of the Camaro.

Two of America's most iconic muscle cars have a milestone birthday this year, and it's a big one. GM's Camaro and Firebird are now 50 years old. A celebration will be in Memphis, Tennessee, and you're invited!

To be held at the iconic Memphis International Raceway in Millington, Tennessee, September 15-17, 2017, the Classic Industries F-Body Nationals is shaping up to be the largest ever gathering of the most iconic muscle cars in the country, and also includes fifth- and sixth-gen Camaros. All stock, restomod, Pro Street, Pro Touring, and drag race setups are welcome. This event promises to have the feel of a giant family reunion packed with plenty of activities for you and your friends.

There will be an Eckler's Rick's Camaro Show-N-Shine Car Show for those wanting to come and just enjoy the event. There will also be designated

parking and judging with trophies for those who prefer to take it to the



next level. The Classic Performance Products (CPP) F-Body Nationals Autocross will be

open to every registered event participant. The challenging course will be designed to put driver skills and their F-body's suspension to the ultimate test.

The Jegs F-Body Nationals Drag Racing will include fun runs and grudge matches as well as competitive DOT Street, JR Eliminator, and Super Eliminator classes. There will also be special exhibition runs that you won't want to miss!

Each registered participant (\$55 preregistered/\$70 at gate) will be entered to win the Trim Parts F-Body Nationals Give-away 1967 Camaro presented by



Right Stuff, SoffSeal, and PUI Interiors. This beautiful red SS features a bumblebee stripe and a fresh coat of paint from our friends at Axalta. A full restoration was provided courtesy of the guys at A&R Restorations in Emory, Texas. To win you must be present on Sunday when the winner is announced.

The Detroit Speed Inc. F-body of the Year Award may be the biggest deal in 2017, as one lucky winner of each of the six generations will be selected. This award is fast becoming the most anticipated of 2017. It will be controversial, it will be coveted, and it will be historical. Be there to witness history in the making.

The Shafer's Classic Reproductions Swap Meet will include thousands of used parts, equipment, and memorabilia for your F-body and other GM vehicles. If you're looking to buy or sell, locate

hard-to-find parts, or just want to see what kinds of treasures you can find, the swap meet will be one of the largest ever. If you're looking to buy your next F-body or sell your current one, the Car Corral will have a huge selection of Camaros and Firebirds to choose from.

The Golden Star Manufacturer Midway will have the finest automotive performance and restoration vendors in the industry displaying the latest products and services for your Camaro or Firebird.

ProQ Motorsports Event Software will provide all online event registration, box office ticketing, and marketing and managed services. ProQ specializes in automotive events and clubs and provides key tools for promoters and club members to more efficiently manage registrations and memberships and allow easy data management.

This event will be held in the "heartbeat" of America at historic Memphis International Raceway in Millington, Tennessee. The track is nestled in the countryside just north of Memphis with plenty of hotels and lodging nearby.

Tickets and more information is available online at [fbodnationals.com](http://fbodnationals.com) or by calling 800.476.6217.

Date: September 15-17, 2017

Location: Memphis International Raceway

Admission: \$55 Preregister, \$70 day of (2 admission + 1 car) or \$20 admission at gate (no car).

### **TIME FOR REPAIR AND UPGRADE TO #12 BERGER**

Those of you that know the little devil had a problem holding it's water when it got excited for long periods so with the trip to California this September I thought it would be a good time to fix the problem.



I got in contact with a friend that built my engines when i was running race cars and asked if he was interested in doing the research and repairing the motor. Gene, being retired now and in a little lou this winter from building motors for drag and pro-street carbureted cars took on the challenge. We also enlisted his son Jerami to assist with the removal from the car.

I knew the problem was aerating the water which meant that somewhere in the combustion chamber there was a leak big enough to pass air but not let the water back. After getting the motor out of the car and disassembled we did not find any cracks in the heads. Gene conferred with the pros at More Power engine shop where he gets his machine work done and they said that was a common problem with some of the LS1s. The castings for the heads were too porous and after they got hot would leak.

Knowing the problem was in the heads the only fix was to replace them. I thought no since in just getting another set of stock so Gene got on line to see what was out there. We decided that the best for the money out there was a kit from Trick-Flow which included a set of higher compression, better flowing heads complete with valves and springs, and a 570 cam.

The bottom end looked good other than the smiles in the pistons from the intake valves, (must be he springs were getting week) but just to be safe we also purchased rings and bearings for the bottom.

Thats all for this month. Will have more next month.

thankx John

### **CAMARO SUPERFEST 2017**

Announces online registration will open on **Friday, Feb 24th at 10pm!!** Our event plans include track time at a local road course, open house at Livernois Motorsports and their dyno AT CSF on Sat/Sunday!, tour of the GM Heritage Center, dinner at the Lingenfelter Collection and movie night to see TRANSFORMERS 5!! What a CAMARO weekend it will be!! Please watch our website for more and the final plans!! These will be posted 2-3 days in advance of our online registration opening! We will also email a form to all past participants!! Stay tuned..... we're almost there!!! We ARE celebrating the Camaro 50th and our official color is orange.





# THE 2017 CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1 IS CAPABLE OF 200+ MPH

Michael Cantu Words - February 20, 2017

Supercharged beast is fastest production Camaro ever

The Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 managed to hit 202.3 mph in one direction on the 7.6-mile long high-speed oval at Germany's Automotive Testing Papenburg proving ground. The official top speed, however, is 198 mph, the average achieved by running the car in both directions and compensating for wind speed. The ZL1 recorded a top result of 193.3 mph running in the other direction. "It's the most capable – and fastest – Camaro ever," said Al Oppenheiser, Camaro chief engineer, in a release.

The ZL1 test car was equipped with the available 10-speed automatic transmission and a set of production Goodyear Eagle F1 Supercar 3 tires with pressure set at the recommended level for high-speed driving, 44 psi. Chevrolet claims that data logging equipment and mandatory safety gear were the coupe's only differences from stock specifications.

Helping the Camaro ZL1 reach 200-plus mph are special aero features that consist of a stanchion rear spoiler that Chevrolet claims offers superior lift/drag ratio compared to the more traditional blade-style rear spoiler, and an auxiliary transmission oil cooler cover that creates no drag but re-

duces front-end lift. Chevrolet also adjusted the remaining aero features for high-speed stability.

According to Oppenheiser, "The ZL1 was developed with high-speed performance in mind, incorporating a balanced aerodynamic package that reduces lift without significantly affecting drag."

The Camaro ZL1 is powered by a 650-hp, 650-lb-ft 6.2-liter supercharged V-8 that can be paired to the standard six-speed manual or the new 10-speed automatic transmission. Magnetic Ride Control, an electronic limited-slip differential, and Brembo brakes with six-piston Monobloc front calipers only add to the muscle car's performance credentials.

When Motor Trend tested this fast brute, the Camaro hit 60 mph in 3.5 seconds and completed the quarter mile in an impressive 11.5 seconds at 125 mph. The hefty 3,926-pound coupe was able to stop from 60 mph in 96 feet and completed the figure-eight handling course in 23.1 seconds, which puts the ZL1 in some lofty high-performance company.

The 2017 Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 starts at \$63,435 (including \$995 destination and \$1,300 gas guzzler tax) when equipped with the six-speed manual, and \$65,830 with the 10-speed automatic (including destination and \$2,100 gas guzzler tax).

<http://www.motortrend.com/news/the-2017-chevrolet-camaro-zl1-is-capable-of-200-mph/>

**Western Michigan Camaro Club**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**February 5, 2017**

**Present:** Cheryl and John Smith and grandson, Teresa and Carl Lins, Christie and John Falkenhagen, Gay and Dave Verburg, Angie and Dave Kemp, Bonnie and Dennis Edwards, Shelley and Gary Crippin, Scott and Ashley Crippin

**New WMCC Members welcome:** No new members.

**Treasury Report – Gary and Shelley**

**Expenditures:** Gary discussed the new computer and software that was purchased.

**Reminder: Club Dues.** Gary stated everyone will need to pay their dues by May 1<sup>st</sup> or you will be removed our list for newsletters.

**Upcoming Events**

**Great Lakes Chemical:** Gary stated this is on April 30 and this will be our May meeting.

**Tour DeMissouri April 27-May 1' 2017:** Randy stated he would have more information ready at next month's meeting. It is about 700 miles to get there. Contact Randy for more information.

**Hot Rod Power Tour June 10-June 16<sup>th</sup>:** Carl and Teresa are planning on going on this trip and others expressed interest.

**Camaro Superfest, June 30-July 2:** Gary stated please see web site on the details.

**September Route 66 Trip (Jeff):** Jeff is heading up this, contact Jeff for more information.

**October 5-8 is WMCC Fall Color Tour:** Gary shared that John and Cheryl and Dennis and Bonnie would be going up to scout out places for the fall color tour in April.

**Member highlight of the Month:** Gary discussed the newsletter dues are not paid you will not receive a newsletter.

**Camaro Website Clothing:** This will be up in a week and more information to come. Club apparel is the business that will have all of our club stuff and Gary will send out an email and there will be a link on the club newsletter.

**Berger August 25<sup>th</sup> Fliers:** Gary stated that fliers are done and awaiting approvals and brought in some "Save the Dates". Gary stated Friday will be the track date. Gary stated Trophy House will do the t-shirt for Berger show and said we need to start working on it in May. More to come on Berger.

**March Meeting March 5th:** The group discussed having Brann's in Caladonia. John will set it up at Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

**New Computer:** Club has purchased a new computer and they are working on transferring information off the old. Office pack 49 first year and 99 per year and new computer was \$349.00, Total was \$420.00.



**Don't miss the next WMCC Meeting**  
**March 5, 2017**  
**At Brann's**  
**In Caledonia, MI**

### **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**