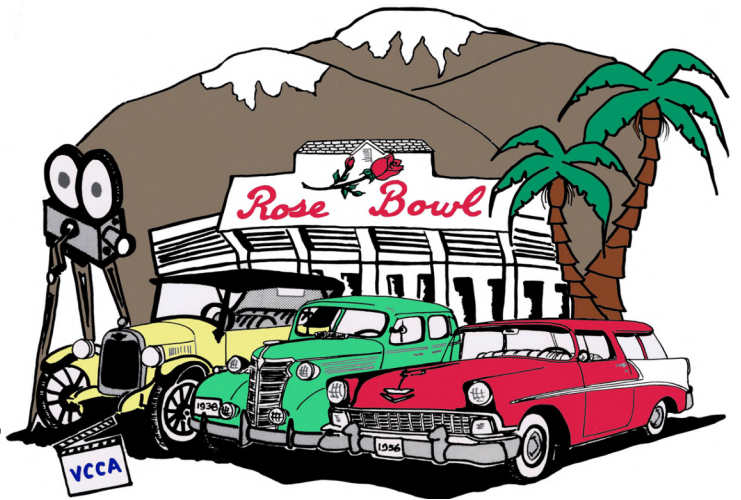


Classic Clatter



AUGUST 2023

A monthly newsletter for the FOOTHILL REGION of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America



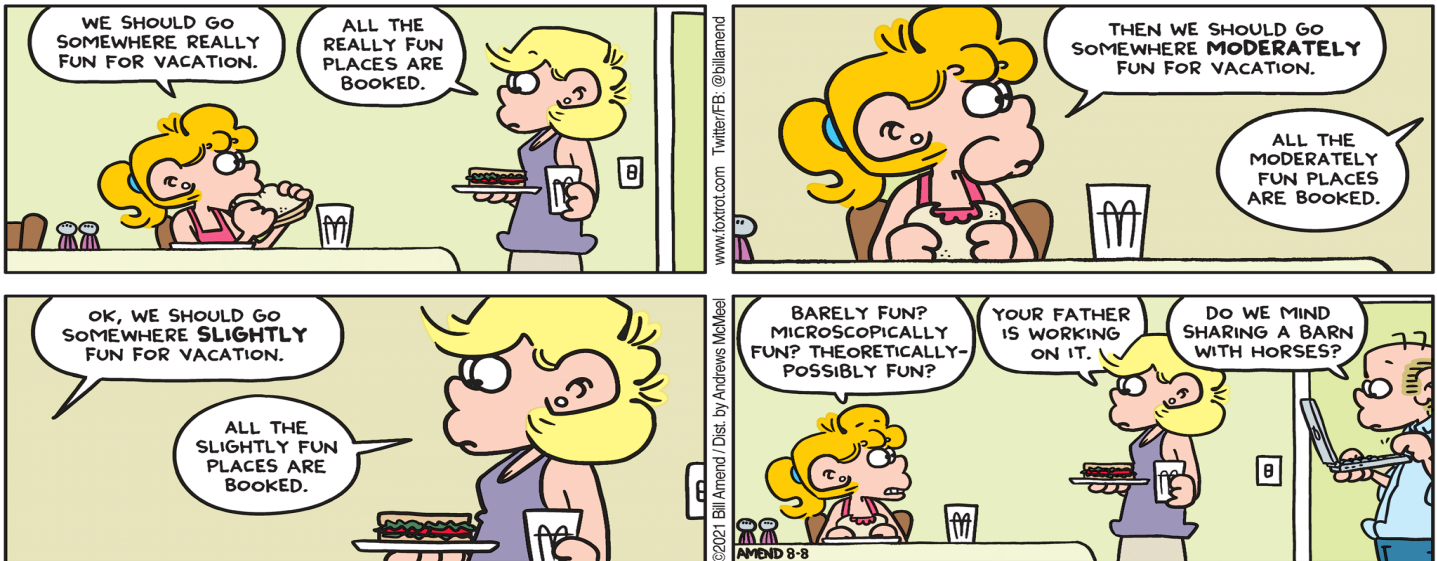


DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

GEORGE T. EDWARDS, Foothill Region Director 2023

"HAPPY AUGUST!" In July we had a very nice get together at Legends Diner in Glendora. We may have another get together very soon! As normal with the "Hot August Nights" there are car shows in the morning called "Coffee and Donuts" shows. In the afternoon they are called "Hamburgers & Hot Dogs". There is a lot going on now that we can go out and support. I look forward to seeing you all at Marie Callender's in Azusa for our monthly meeting on Saturday, August 5th. I hope everyone is doing well.

Take care and be safe,
George Edwards, Director



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The Phantom 1958 Corvette Retractable Hardtop

Francis Scott's one-of-one '58 Corvette retractable wasn't exactly a factory prototype, but it was an inside job. Here's the story behind the story.



For years, stories about an unusual retractable hardtop circulated through the Corvette collector world like urban folklore. There were tales of a production 1958 Corvette, but with a hardtop that retracted into the trunk like a Ford Skyliner. Experts who had seen the oddball Vette reported that from the factory-like workmanship, it must be some rare prototype that had somehow escaped into the wild. Sightings were random and conflicting: The retractable was seen around Detroit, then Florida. It was white. No, black. No, it was white with red coves. Some versions of the legend claimed there was not one, but three Corvette retractables.



As it turns out, there was such a car—just one. Though it wasn't a factory project, we can forgive the experts for being fooled. The car was built by a General Motors stylist, but not in GM's studios. Francis H. Scott created the Corvette retractable in his living room.

Scott couldn't afford the new Corvette he wanted on his GM salary—base price at the time was around \$3600. But he had plenty of experience with clay modeling and with fiberglass layup ("dirty, nasty work," as he remembered it) working as a sculptor in the GM Styling Section. In late 1958, Scott purchased a wrecked and written-off '58 Corvette from an insurance company for \$900. With the windshield removed, the shattered body shell fit sideways through the front door of his home and into his living room, where he set to work rebuilding it.

Scott's original plan was simply to repair the Corvette. The idea for the retractable roof came once he got started—pure serendipity, the result of his cramped work area. With the entire rear body area laid open for repair, he discovered that the Corvette's lift-off hardtop stowed neatly in the trunk. Eureka!

For his retracting mechanism, Scott borrowed from the much more complicated Skyliner, adapting the latches, one of the lock motors and two drive cables, parts he picked up at the local Ford dealer. The top itself traveled back and then down on hinged fiberglass tracks of his own design.



Nearly all the fabrication work, including the rear window frame, was done in fiberglass, working from clay patterns and molds. Scott explained, "I didn't have the facilities or experience to make it out of metal, so the clay-fiberglass method was used." Scott made no plan drawings, simply engineered the design as he went along, and the result is simple, elegant and exceedingly clever.



The same might not be said for the awkward trunk blisters required to provide clearance for the top in the stowed position: They oddly recall the 1958 Thunderbird. In his defense Scott would later say, "I wish I had done something different in that area. GM spends thousands of man-hours moving clay around because they don't hit the target the first time either." Ironically, Scott's retractable top may have been a perfect fit under the square deck of the 1961-62 Corvettes.

Scott was awarded patent No. 3,180,677 for his hinged track design, which he assigned to General Motors for one dollar, per corporate policy. But management expressed no interest in Scott's concept whatsoever. One day Styling VP Bill Mitchell encountered the retractable in the Tech Center parking lot, circled it once, said "I'll be damned," and walked away.

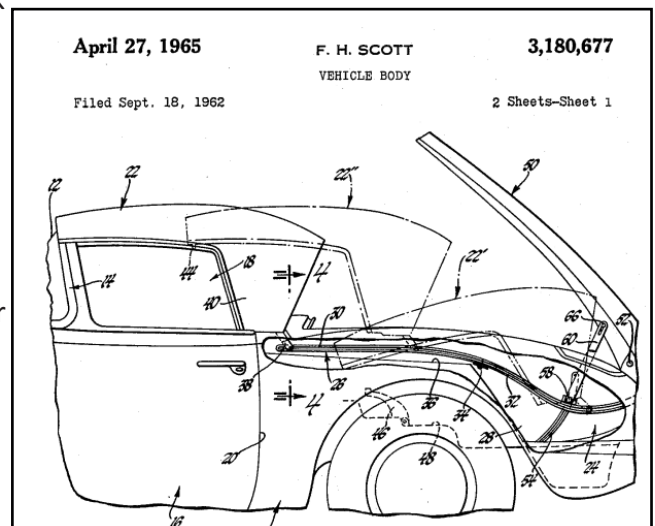


Scott used the Corvette as daily transportation to and from the Tech Center for almost six years, then traded it for a full-sized Chevrolet. A man of many talents, Scott was playing in a local band and needed room for his ax. "If you've ever carried as bass fiddle in a Corvette you can imagine the problem," he said.

The Corvette then disappeared from view, except for the occasional sightings that fed the rumors. It spent some time in Florida, was repainted at least once, from black to a flashy white-and-red two-tone, and eluded capture until 1989. The retractable was then purchased by Corvette guru Terry Michaelis, who treated it to a 1400-hour, frame-off restoration in 1994.

Scotty, as the retractable is known in honor of its creator, then went on display in Michaelis' showroom at Pro Team Corvette Sales in Napoleon, Ohio. While the retractable is for sale like the 200 other Corvettes on hand, company spokesperson Beth Landis said, "Scotty is really more like part of the family here."

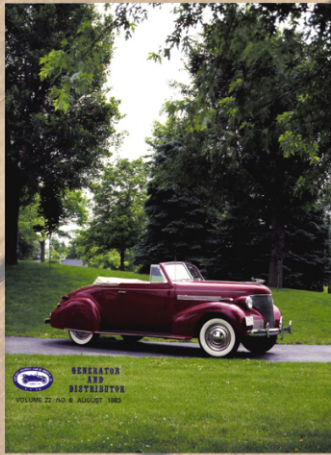
Another version of this story by MCG originally appeared in the May 22, 2000 issue of AutoWeek magazine. In 2005, the Corvette retractable went on the auction block at Barrett-Jackson, where it sold for \$340,200. Today the car resides in the collection of mega-car dealer, NASCAR team owner, and collector Rick Hendrick.



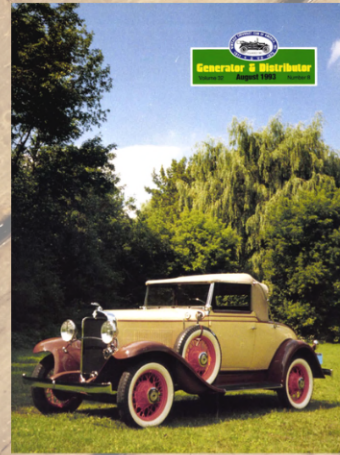
50 Years of G&D Covers



AUGUST 1973



AUGUST 1983



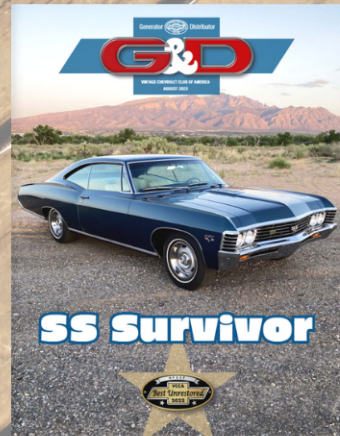
AUGUST 1993



AUGUST 2003



AUGUST 2013



AUGUST 2023

here for the
first time
anywhere—
elegance with economy



Impala Sport Coupe—one of 16 fresh-minded '60 Chevrolets you can choose from.

SUPERLATIVE '60 CHEVROLET

Here's new gem-bright beauty, new room to sprawl in and sit tall in. New lean-muscled engine economy, new spirit and silence in its going. For fineness of features, for precise craftsmanship—for all the things that make a car good to own—the '60 Chevrolet stands alone in its price field.

Just wait till you see it. Everything about the '60 Chevy, every styling accent, every engineering detail, has been polished and refined to a degree of perfection never before thought possible of a car in Chevrolet's price class.

Picture practicality and economy (there's even more of it in a new gas-saving V8!) combined with much of the luxury and hushed comfort usually associated with high-priced

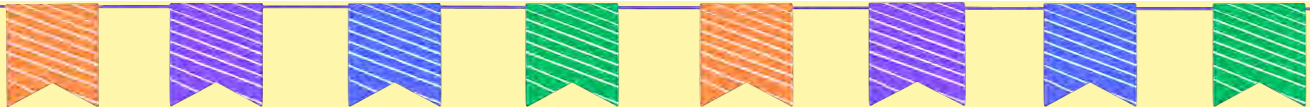
automobiles. That's Chevy for '60. Its overall effect is one of quiet elegance, a sophisticated new shape that embodies spacious inner dimensions. Space for long legs and broad shoulders, with sofa-wide seats and even more foot room for front seat passengers. Space that specializes in family travel!

Really, you have to see this one up close to appreciate its fresh beauty and fine workman-

ship. You have to take a turn behind the wheel to know its astonishing smoothness and almost total absence of road hum and vibration. We'll admit our enthusiasm's showing just a bit—but once you've dropped into your dealer's we're sure yours will be, too. *There's nothing like a new car—and there's never been a new car like this '60 Chevrolet!* . . . Chevrolet Division of General Motors, Detroit 2, Michigan.

NEAREST TO PERFECTION A LOW-PRICED CAR EVER CAME!

HOLIDAY/NOVEMBER



Meeting This Month!
Saturday, August 5th at 8:30 am
Marie Callender's Restaurant
1175 E. Alostia Avenue, Azusa, CA 91702
 Off the 210 Fwy - Grand Ave. exit on the corner of Historic
 Route 66/Alostia & Barranca Ave. on the north side of the street



FOOTHILL REGION HISTORY

*First meeting was in 1977 and it was held at Jack Wall Chevrolet
Jack Wall Chevrolet became Team Chevrolet and now is a lumber yard.
In 1977 the region had 18 families.*

DIRECTOR	ASST, DIRECTOR	SECRETARY	TREASURER	TOUR DIRECTOR	NEWSLETTER
1977 Ray Waldbum	Norm Lefmann	Betty Kirkwood	Mike Norton	_____	_____
1978 Marvin Imm	Norm Lefmann	Betty Kirkwood	Ester Imm	_____	How-Bett Kirkwood
1979 Bob Hassinger	Howard Kirkwood	Betty Kirkwood	Rita Jones	_____	How-Bett Kirkwood
1980 Bob Hassinger	Howard Kirkwood	Betty Kirkwood	Ester Imm	How-Bett Kirkwood	How-Bett Kirkwood
1981 Dennis Fink	Tom Stimson	Jean Fink	Steve Michaelson	How-Bett Kirkwood	Jean Fink
1982 Dennis Fink	Jim Holt	Jean Fink	Sue Robertson	Helen Holt	Helen Holt/Jean Fink
1983 Jim Holt	Jim Ferrier	Ina Brookshire	Sue Robertson	Dennis Fink	Helen Holt/Jean Fink
1984 George Reeley	George Aust	Jean Fink	Sue Robertson	Dave Johnson	George Aust/Jean Fink
1985 Jean Fink	Roy Brookshire	Dennis Murray	Sue Robertson	Lita Murray	Brookshire/Fink
1986 Dick Dennis	Glenn Ritter	Dennis Murray	Ernie Moffatt	George Aust	Glenn Ritter/Fink
1987 Dennis Murray	Al Bafford	Jean Fink	Ernie Moffatt	Lita Murray	Jean Fink
1988 Roger Felix	Curt Potter	Dennis Murray	Lita Murray	George Aust	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1989 Ernie Moffatt	Bob Hughes	Ken Kaufmann	Curt Potter	Don Gardner	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1990 George Aust	Dick Dennis	Ken Kaufmann	Curt Potter	Don Gardner	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1991 Dennis Murray	Don Gardner	Ken Kaufmann	Art Label	Lita Murray	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1992 Jean Fink	Ernie Moffatt	Ken Kaufmann	Art Label	Denise Zappen	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1993 Jean Fink	Tracy Gage	Ken Kaufmann	Art Label	Don Gardner	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1994 Don Gardner	Tracy Gage	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	Joe Zappen	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1995 Jean Fink	Tracy Gage	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	George Aust	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1996 Don Gardner	Ray Sorenson	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	Joe Zappen	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1997 Jean Fink	Tracy Gage	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	_____	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1998 Joe Zappen	Tracy Gage	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	Robert Jackson	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
1999 Bill Zappen	Tracy Gage	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	Don Gardner	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
2000 Don Gardner	Tracy Gage	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	Victor Bracamontes	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
2001 George Edwards	Tracy Gage	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	Michael McCormack	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
2002 Tracy Gage	_____	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	Bill Zappen	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
2003 Roger Bolton	Tracy Gage	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	George Edwards	Ken Kaufmann/Fink
2004 Paul Porner	Roger Bolton	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	_____	Dennis & Jean Fink
2005 Bill Reese	Paul Porner	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	Mike McNeill	Dennis & Jean Fink
2006 Bill Reese	Porner/Felix	Ken Kaufmann	Roger Felix	Mike McNeill	Dennis & Jean Fink
2007 Bill Reese	Roger Felix	Ken Kaufmann	Sue Robertson	Mike McNeill	Dennis & Jean Fink
2008 Bill Reese	Roger Felix	Ken Kaufmann	Sue Robertson	Steve Knickelbein	Dennis & Jean Fink
2009 Bill Reese	Roger Felix	Ken Kaufmann	Sue Robertson	Alonso Guerrero	Dennis & Jean Fink
2010 Alonso Guerrero	Roger Felix	Mandy Emerson	Sue Robertson	_____	Dennis & Jean Fink
2011 Alonso Guerrero	Roger Felix	Jean Fink	Sue Robertson	_____	Dennis & Jean Fink
2012 Alonso Guerrero	Roger Felix	Jean Fink	Sue Robertson	_____	Dennis & Jean Fink
2013 Alonso Guerrero	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Sue Robertson	_____	Jean Fink
2014 Alonso Guerrero	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Sue Robertson	_____	Jean Fink
2015 Jean Fink	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Sue Robertson	Ray Garcia	Jean Fink
2016 Alonso Guerrero	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Judy Mulé	Ray Garcia	Jean Fink
2017 Alonso Guerrero	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Judy Mulé	Ray Garcia	Jean Fink
2018 Alonso Guerrero	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Judy Mulé	Ray Garcia	Jean Fink
2019 Alonso Guerrero	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Judy Mulé	Ray Garcia	Jean Fink
2020 George Edwards	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Judy Mulé	Ray Garcia	Jean Fink
2021 George Edwards	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Judy Mulé	Ray Garcia	Jean Fink
2022 George Edwards	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Judy Mulé	Ray Garcia	Sabrina Karras
2023 George Edwards	Roger Felix	Rosie Garcia	Sabrina Karras	Ray Garcia	Sabrina Karras



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Hazel Zaricor	(562) 461-0826	hazelzar@aol.com	Bellflower
Celine & Luis Zarza	(626) 602-6702	craftyzarza@aol.com	Chino

If your name is in **BOLD** than your dues are paid for 2023

**2023 Dues
are Due!**

**Friendly Reminder! 2023 dues
payments are past due!**

DUES STILL ONLY \$15

Checks made payable to:
FOOTHILL REGION VCCA

Mail check to: Foothill Region
829 E. Van Bibber Ave, Orange, CA 92866

AUGUST 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 Carmine & Gloria Palazzo Anniversary Chris & Lela Oaks Anniversary	4	5 
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Christina Brehove Birthday	19
20 Gilbert & Letty Dominguez Anniversary	21	22	23	24	25 Ray Garcia, Jr. Birthday	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 
3	4 	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Jeanette Aust Birthday	14	15	16
17 Carmine Palazzo Birthday	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Ana Garcia Birthday	30 Jean Fink Birthday



THE VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA INC.

Foothill Region

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name _____ Birthdate _____

Spouse _____ Birthdate _____ Anniversary _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Cell (Member) _____ Cell (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.

FOOTHILL REGION DUES.....\$15 per calendar year

NATIONAL DUES RENEWAL NEW

Membership (Member, Spouse & Children) one vote.....\$40 per year

*When paying both dues to the Foothill Region, please write 2 checks:
1 for \$15 to Foothill Region and 1 for \$40 to VCCA National. Thank You.*

NOTE: FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES ALL REGION MEMBERS MUST JOIN NATIONAL IN ORDER TO JOIN THE REGION.

REGION: All members receive a monthly region newsletter and participation in all our meetings, tours and events.

NATIONAL: All new members receive a club badge, decal, membership card and the national magazine "Generator & Distributor." Members will be entitled to advertising in the club magazine and participation in all VCCA activities. Commercial advertising rates available. For more information or application visit: www.vcca.org

The purpose of the VCCA is to promote interest in the preservation of vintage Chevrolets. Ownership of a Chevrolet IS NOT a prerequisite for active membership. If you presently own a Chevrolet please fill in below.

YEAR	MODEL	BODY STYLE	CLY.	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:

Foothill Region- Sabrina Karras
829 E Van Bibber Avenue, Orange, CA 92866

x _____

Applicant's Signature