

A newsletter of the Orange County Region of the
Vintage Chevrolet Club of America by and for its members



FEBRUARY 2024



The Orange Peel



Director's Message February 2024

Happy Valentine's Day! The next Breakfast Club gathering is set for 8:30 AM on Saturday, February 10th at Hof's Hut, located at 12489 Seal Beach Blvd. Please RSVP with Sabrina.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 13th at 7 PM at the Church of the Foothills in Santa Ana. Please mark your calendars. The Supper Club dinner at Spires in Tustin is at 5:30 PM before the meeting. RSVP with Sabrina, so we can make the necessary arrangements in advance.

Don't forget to RSVP to Sabrina for the Southern California Region Area 1 Tour to see the Browning Collection in Cerritos. The tour is on Saturday, February 24th. See the Orange Peel for details.

On March 9th, hosted by the Foothill Region, Sabrina has an Area 1 tour planned to see the NHRA MotorSports Museum in Pomona with Breakfast at nearby Norm's Hangar at Brackett Field Airport in La Verne. Come to the meeting to hear more about this tour!

Until next month, remember; life is a journey -- not a destination, so relax and enjoy the ride!

Jim Karras, #43031 - Director - OCVCCA

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

OCVCCA Business Meetings

The OCVCCA meets on a monthly basis on the second Tuesday of every month except December. Guests are welcome to join.

The meetings are held at:
Church of the Foothills
19211 Dodge Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Next Meeting:

February 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm



For more information on the OCVCCA such as upcoming events, online membership application & renewal, club gear, event & member vehicle photos, Orange Peel archive, and more go to our website at www.ocrvcca.org



Be sure to check out our Facebook page! Search for OCVCCA and click follow to keep up to date on all the happenings in the club!



Breakfast Club Gathering



The OCVCCA breakfast club meets on the second Saturday of every month at Hof's Hut in Seal Beach at 8:30 am.

Hof's Hut is located at 12489 Seal Beach Blvd, Seal Beach, CA 90740
Members and guests are welcome to join us for fun, food, and fellowship.

Next Gathering:

February 10, 2024 at 8:30 am



Supper Club Gathering

The OCVCCA supper club meets on the second Tuesday of every month before the business meeting at Spires Restaurant in Tustin at 5:30 pm.

Spires is located at 13451 Newport Ave, Tustin, CA 92780
Members and guests are welcome to join us for fun, food, and fellowship.

Next Gathering:

February 13, 2024 at 5:30 pm



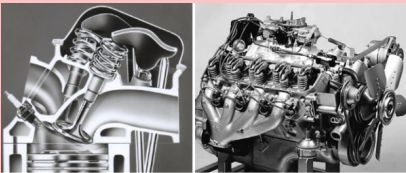
Birth of the Big-Block Chevy: The 1965 396 V8

The long and glorious story of the big-block Chevy starts here, with the 1965 396 V8.

The Chevrolet 396 cubic-inch V8 was introduced in January of 1965, midway through the '65 model year, but maybe the proper place to begin is with the near-legendary 427 NASCAR Mystery engine of 1963. Although the 427 Mystery Mark II V8 and the 396 Mark IV are of two different engine families, they are products of the same development path and share many of the same features. But while the Mystery engine effectively dead-ended in '63, the 396 was the first in a long and successful series of big-block V8s, opening a chapter in the Chevy performance story that is still being written.



The most obvious element of the Mystery engine that was carried forward to the 396, and all the big-block Chevy V8s that followed, was the distinctive canted-valve cylinder head. By splaying the intake and exhaust valves relative to each cylinder, the valve diameters could be larger and the port angles straighter, improving airflow. With the valve covers removed, the valves and rocker arms on this novel setup appeared to be pointed in every direction, inspiring the nickname "porcupine head" early on. At some point the engine family picked up the name big-block due to its larger bore spacing and taller deck height than the original 1955 Chevy V8, aka small-block.



There were actually three 396 cubic-inch V8s introduced in early 1965, including the L78 for the Corvette and full-sized cars and the L37 for a special version of the Chevelle SS known as the Z16. All featured a 4.094-in bore and a 3.760-in stroke and were marketed under the name Turbo-Jet V8. Rated at 425 hp at 6400 rpm, the L78 was a serious piece of equipment, boasting four-bolt main caps, a Holley four-barrel carb, an 11.0:1 compression ratio, and a solid-lifter camshaft.



The L37 V8 for the Z16 Chevelle was essentially the same stout package but with a less aggressive camshaft profile and hydraulic lifters, and it earned a 375 hp rating. The 396 in the Z16, an extensively equipped machine, was dressed out with a chrome air cleaner lid and valve covers. (Only 201 were built.) Finally, there was an L35 version in milder tune for the big cars (Biscayne, Bel Air, Impala) with a 10.25:1 compression ratio and 325 hp.

Introduced at mid-year, the '65 396 was not produced in massive numbers, but it spawned an extensive line of 396 and 427 CID V8s for 1966 and beyond. A 454 CID version appeared in 1970, and in its final state of production development decades later, the big-block V8 evolved into the 8.1 liter (496 CID) Vortec used in Chevy trucks n 2001 through 2006. But the story hasn't ended yet.



Chevrolet Performance continues to produce and market the engines along with a complete line of parts. For proof of concept of the original Chevy big-block design, the ultimate in the catalog is a 632 cubic-inch crate engine—available straight over the counter—with 1004 hp and 876 lb-ft of torque. And it all began with the 396 V8.

Article by MCG posted November 8, 2022 at <https://www.macsmotorcitygarage.com/birth-of-the-big-block-chevy-the-1965-396-v8/>

DUES STILL ONLY \$15.00!

2024 OCVCCA REGION DUES ARE DUE!

RENEW ONLINE AT OCRVCCA.ORG!

If paying by check (made payable to OCVCCA) send to:
Tom Clark - 5351 Huntley Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92845



2024 All Cal Update

Exciting news! The registration forms for the 2024 All Cal have been released by the Sacramento Valley Region (the hosting region).

The All Cal is scheduled for May 1-4, 2024 and will be located in Galt, CA (Northern CA). This will be a fun-filled event that you won't want to miss so mark your calendars and make sure you get your registrations in early. The closing deadline for registrations is Wednesday April 17th. The host hotel information is included on the registration forms so be sure to check them out and make your reservations as soon as possible as space does fill up fast.

The itinerary looks like it should be fun:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Wednesday, May 1st: | <i>Event registration check-in and evening ice cream social</i> |
| Thursday, May 2nd: | <i>Passport tour (76 miles) to Knight Foundry & Kennedy Mines</i> |
| Friday, May 3rd: | <i>Passport tour (85 miles) to California Automobile Museum</i> |
| Saturday, May 4th: | <i>Passport tour (30 miles) to McFarland Ranch & a private car collection with a catered lunch.
Evening buffet banquet to cap off the day.</i> |

For any questions or more information you can contact the All Cal coordinator Mario Briseno via phone at (916) 698-1175 or email at brisenom@att.net.

Emails with the registration forms have already been sent out to the membership, but if you need the email resent, or you would like a paper copy mailed to you, please contact me via email at sabrinakarras@aol.com or via cell at (714) 287-4757.

We will update you with any further information as it comes along. Hope to see you there!

FEBRUARY 24TH, 2024

TOUR OF THE KENT BROWNING COLLECTION HOSTED BY THE SO CAL REGION VCCA



The Kent Browning Collection, showcases beautifully restored cars that have seldom been seen by the public. The collection, owned by Kent Browning of the Browning Automotive Group, has over 150 cars, over 30 cars of which were previously owned by Art Astor, as well as an example of every Corvette from 1957 to 1977 and many rare Oldsmobiles. Also on display are vintage radios, art deco furniture, and movie memorabilia previously owned by Art Astor.



- We will meet at the collection at 9:30 a.m.
- At 10:00, the collection curator will welcome everyone and provide a brief history of the Browning dealerships and the collection you'll see.
- The collection's doors will close promptly at noon after a two-hour self-guided tour.
- Since the collection is private, driving instructions and address will be provided with your RSVP confirmation.
- A caravan for those travelling from Orange County will meet at 8:30 am in Tustin at Enderle Center.



TOUR ELIGIBLE FOR PASSPORT MILES!

Lunch to follow at 12:30 pm at Wood Ranch in Cerritos Towne Center

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

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

OCVCCA Meeting Minutes - January 9, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: Jim Karras, Director, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Gary & Judy Howard, Bill & Colleen Ingalls, Jeanne Krogh, Carl P. Slaney, Dave Potter, Fred & Sue Fosseck, Jean Burns, Jim Long, Luke P. Redmann, Brittany Peyatt, Sue & Denis Hergenreter, Tom Clark, Jim & Sabrina Karras

FLAG SALUTE: Denis Hergenreter led the flag salute.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING: Minutes from the November meeting were distributed and discussed. Judy Howard made a motion to accept the minutes. Bill Ingalls seconded. Motion was voted on and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tom Clark gave the report. Treasury is in the positive. Colleen Ingalls made a motion to accept the report as presented. Jim Long seconded. Motion was voted on and approved. No badge fines were collected. Colleen Ingalls indicated that her son-in-law was unsure if the Whittier Area Church had received the "Night to Shine" donation yet. Tom will research.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:

TOURS: Sabrina Karras reported that the next tour is scheduled to the Kent Browning Collection in Cerritos on Saturday, February 24th hosted by the So Cal Region. Members will meet at the collection at 9:30 am for a self-guided tour of the private car collection. Lunch will follow at a nearby restaurant. Flyers have been sent out via email. RSVP as soon as possible. There is also a tour hosted by the Foothill Region to the NHRA Motorsports Museum in Pomona scheduled for Saturday, March 9th. We will meet for breakfast beforehand at 9:00 am, then tour the museum afterwards. Flyers will be going out via email soon. Another tour is set to be hosted by the So Cal Region for Saturday, April 20th to the Flight Path Museum in Los Angeles. This will also have us meeting for breakfast prior to the museum tour. Look for more details and a flyer via email soon. It should be a busy few months for the club.

BREAKFAST CLUB: Sabrina Karras reported that our next breakfast club gathering at Hof's Hut Seal Beach will be on Saturday, January 13th at 8:30 am.

CAR SHOW: Denis Hergenreter had no report at this time.

MEMBERSHIP: Colleen Ingalls reported that 2024 OCVCCA region dues payments are due by January 31st. Sabrina Karras will send out renewal notices to the membership via email by the end of the week.

ORANGE PEEL: Sabrina Karras reported that her first edition as newsletter editor went out on January 1st. She is looking for submissions from members for future editions.

WEBMASTER: Jim Karras reported that he has made several updates and revisions to the region website. Check it out.

EVENTS CALENDAR: Judy Howard shared upcoming events for the Region and in the local classic car community.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Sabrina Karras reported an update to All Cal 2024. The Sacramento Valley Region (the hosting

(Continued on next page)

OCVCCA Meeting Minutes (Con't.) - January 9, 2024

region) released the registration forms for the event, which is scheduled for May 1-4, 2024, and will be in Galt, CA (just outside of Sacramento). Sabrina emailed the forms to the membership this week. The registration deadline is April 17th. Info included host hotel and event itinerary. For more information contact event coordinator Mario Briseno of the Sacramento Valley Region.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim Karras presented the 2024 annual OCVCCA proposed operating budget for membership review. The budget was discussed among the members present with an opportunity for questions and answers from Jim and treasurer Tom Clark. Judy Howard made a motion to accept the 2024 budget as presented. Dave Potter seconded. Motion was voted on and approved.

Judy Howard brought forth a discussion on the 2024 holiday luncheon. She reported that our past location of Gulliver's Restaurant was already booked on our preferred date. Membership discussed dates and times and agreed on an alternate. Fred Fossek made a motion to authorize Judy to reserve our event at Gulliver's Restaurant on Sunday, December 1, 2024, at 11:30 am. Luke Redmann seconded. Motion was voted on and approved. Judy will confirm the date with the event coordinator, and we will place a deposit at a later date.

MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION:

Denis Hergenreter shared that his 1965 wagon has been stripped down to its bare shell and is waiting for its next steps. It will need to be rust fixed, then prepped, and primed for paint. He's enjoying the process of getting this driver ready for the road!

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 13th at the Church of the Foothills, Santa Ana at 7:00 pm

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Tom Clark moved to adjourn. Bill Ingalls made the second. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Sabrina Karras, Secretary.



**MEMBERS AT OUR
JANUARY 9TH
OCVCCA MEETING**

February 2024 Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 	3 
					Grand National Roadster Show 12 pm - 8 pm	Grand National Roadster Show 10 am - 8 pm
4 	5	6	7	8	9	10 
Grand National Roadster Show 10 am - 6 pm						Breakfast Club at Hof's Hut - 8:30 am
11 	12	13 	14 	15	16	17
Long Beach Swap Meet 6 am - 1 pm		Supper Club at Spires Tustin - 5:30 pm OCVCCA Business Meeting - 7:00 pm	Valentine's Day			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 
						Kent Browning Collection Tour 9:30 am - 2:00 pm
25	26	27	28	29		

Weekly Car Shows & Cruises

Tuesday: Laguna Hills - Hot Rods Unlimited In-N-Out Cruise In - 5 PM - 7 PM - 24001 Avenida de la Carlota

Wednesday: Placentia - Big Wednesday Car Show - 5 PM - 7:30 PM - 2001 E. Orangethorpe

Friday: Garden Grove - Main Street Friday Night Car Show - 4 PM - 8 PM - 12891 Historic Main Street

Saturday: Huntington Beach - Donut Derelicts - 6 AM - 9 AM - Magnolia & Adams

Sunday: Seal Beach - Hot Rods at the Beach - 8 AM - 11 AM - Glory Days Seaside Grill, 620 Pacific Coast Hwy

Sunday: Newport Beach - Car Meet Up - 9 AM - Chihuahua Cerveza, 3107 Newport Blvd.

Happy Birthday

Bob Crane - February 1st | Chuck Kasnow - February 11th | Doug Gillespe - February 13th
Jeanne Boberg - February 15th | Richard Palazzo - February 17th | Larry Boberg - February 18th
Fred Fossek - February 22nd | Tom Roberts - February 23rd | Connie Roy - February 28th

Sue Hergenreter - March 4th | Bill Ingalls - March 9th | Mark Wilk - March 13th
Eileen Cochran - March 13th | Annette Bartolomucci - March 15th | Joh Kelly - March 15th
Janet Potter - March 17th | Amanda Medina - March 17th | Blake Montero - March 20th
Gerry Eldred - March 20th | Sabrina Karras - March 29th

Happy Anniversary

John & Julie Patterson - February 12th | Bob & Stacey McCoy - February 14th
Angie & Dave Wilson - February 14th | Mark & Deborah Bird - February 20th
Gary & Judy Howard - March 20th | Art & Linda Wesselman - March 27th

OCVCCA Leadership



Jim Karras
Director
jimkarras@aol.com
(714) 633-8210



Denis Hergenreter
Assistant Director & Car Show Manager
denis327@hotmail.com
(714) 746-4200



Sabrina Karras
Secretary & Tour Director
sabinakarras@aol.com
(714) 287-4757



Tom Clark
Treasurer
tom@tclarkcpa.com
(714) 892-3383



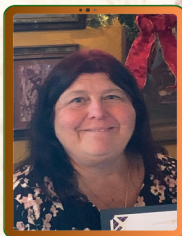
Colleen Ingalls
Membership Coordinator
co.ingalls@gmail.com
(323) 816-0305



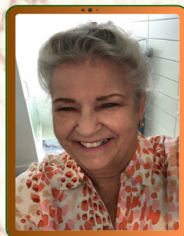
Gary Howard
Picnic in the Park Coordinator & PCC Liason
jghoward@cox.net
(909) 227-7476



Gregg Bunch
Picnic in the Park Coordinator
gbunch1269@sbcglobal.net
(714) 318-9642



Susan Hergenreter
Drawings Coordinator
hergfamily@sbcglobal.net
(714) 814-7938



Judy Howard
Holiday Luncheon & Events Calendar Coordinator
jghoward@cox.net
(714) 270-2614



Bill Ingalls
Photographer & Newsletter Contributor
bi.ingalls@gmail.com
(323) 816-2597

Other VCCA Resources

Orange County Region Web Site

www.ocrvcca.org

National VCCA Web Site

www.vcca.org

Area 1 VCCA Web Site

www.area1vcca.org

VCCA Area #1 Board Member

Dean Echols - (928) 710-4325 - deanechols38@gmail.com

VCCA Member Services

(708) 455-VCCA (8222) - memberservices@vcca.org

VCCA Internet Chat Forum

www.vcca.org/forum/



Purpose

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

Our club has an extensive technical expertise knowledge base to draw from. If you are still building your dream project, or need assistance with your Chevrolet and GMC vehicle, someone in our club is always willing to offer technical assistance.

We welcome guests at our meetings and many of our events. If you are looking to join a car club with members who appreciate Chevrolet and GMC vehicles, please contact us or come or visit us at one of our monthly meetings!

Our region is comprised of many 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 Orange County 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*. To join, go online to <https://vcca.org/>

Orange County Region Dues: Dues for the Orange County Region are \$15.00 per year. Dues are payable on or before January 31st. An active member receives a monthly newsletter – the *Orange Peel* and notification of all club activities. An active member may participate in the business meetings and all club events, both regional and national. To join, go online to <https://ocrvcca.org/>



Orange Peel Publication Information

The Orange Peel is published every month. Ads and other contributions from members are welcome for publication in the Orange Peel. The deadline for all contributions is the last Tuesday of every month. To submit material send via email to orangepeel@ocrvcca.org. Newsletter Editor is Sabrina Karras.





THE VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA INC.

Orange County 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 Orange County Region membership is \$15.00 per year.

ORANGE COUNTY 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 Orange County 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:
ORANGE COUNTY REGION VCCA – Attn: Tom Clark
 5351 Huntley Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92845-1925

X _____
Applicant's Signature